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MARCH

FEATURES # C DEPARTMENTS

THE POLI	TICS OF MARIJUANA
by Peter Go Considerin juana use, y a source of	orman
Negril, Lan having a for who's both	blem? Implication of No Problem, will admit to ew. Here's a candid look at ering what and what's bothern the Smoker's Paradise.
There are Negril is cr ists from De	ors

by John Shirley
VISIT TO A SMALL PLANTATION
by John Holmstrom61

SIX KINDS OF DARKNESS

There's more to life than growing ganja, but don't tell that to the Negril growers. They won't believe you.

THE SECRET GARDEN

by George Lassen64 Spring is just around the corner, time for outdoor growers to search out secret nooks and crannies. Here are a few tips from an expert.

On The Cover: Michael Frazer in the caves at Xtabi restaurant. Photo by Andre Grossmann.

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TOP 100

we still ended in a tie.

It was a four-way tie as we came down to the wire, so we extended the voting. But

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LETTEDS

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FOUNDING EDITOR THOMAS KING FORCADE, 1945–1978

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Andre Grossmann's work has appeared many times in HIGH TIMES. His photos of the Mind's Eye in the August issue, Chef Ra in November, and the Miss Kali centerfold in January have been some of his most popular work.

Andre's work appears all over the place. His photos are distributed worldwide by an international photo agency, and have been published in many European and American magazines (and books, like *Hip Hop*, written by Steve Hager).

Andre is not just hard-working, he's also fearless. For the *Morton Downey Jr. Show* taping, he sneaked a camera past a metal detector to take pictures of The General getting tossed around by Downey's security goons (see Highwitness News). If he'd been caught, they might have broken his camera and his legs, but Andre kept shooting, even after a HIGH TIMES editor (who shall remain nameless) begged him to stop, fearing reprisal from Downey's security.

While in Negril, Andre amazed everyone with his work ethic. He shot photos morning, noon, and night. He also took amazing risks—climbing rocky cliffs, trespassing into restricted areas, and telling some of the ruder ragamuffins where to get off.

All of you aspiring shutterbugs who think it might be fun to go down to Jamaica and take pictures of ganja plantations might not want to listen to Andre's advice: "Don't become photographers if you want to make a decent living."

We're glad Andre chooses to publish his photos in HIGH TIMES, even if it doesn't make him rich.

John Holmstrom

LIOHN FOLMSTROM

Executive Editor

Andre Grossmann

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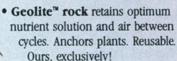
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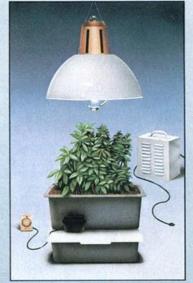


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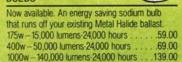
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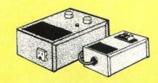
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Deluxe 1000w	.170.50
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4 unit hydrospot			,	40		ļ				4.		,	.208.00
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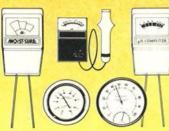


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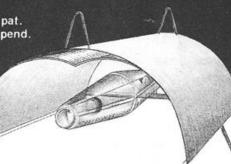
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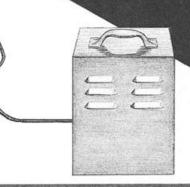
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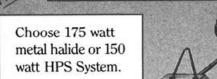
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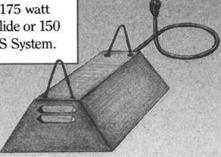
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See our ads on pages 8 & 9





 Send your letters to HIGH TIMES "Letters," 211 E. 43rd St., NY, NY 10017. Names are not printed (just initials) unless specifically requested.

GAG DOWNEY

Morton Downey Jr. has the biggest mouth and tiniest mind on TV. I just saw this living pile of shit call for totalitarian police state measures against heads, while PUFFING AWAY ON A CANCER STICK! What a hypocrite! Downey is a serious menace.

— D. W.

New Rochelle, New York

How right you are. The HIGH TIMES staff recently visited Downey's show. Our report starts on page 19.

MORE ON MARSHALL

I'm a student at the University of Pennsylvania and I've been entertained and well-informed by your magazine for years. However, James Marshall's article on "The Real Rock'n'Roll Hall of Fame" (December '87) left me disgusted. Marshall's use of the derogatory term "nigger" in describing Ike Turner was so un-HIGH TIMES that I thought it was a mistake until I found the same ugly word later on in reference to Richard Berry. I love your mag, as do many black Americans, but there's one thing we can do without and that's this V.B.F. (vaginal blood fart) Marshall. So do everyone a favor and give him a oneway ticket to Illinois, so he can write for the Neo-Nazis.

— Totally Pissed-Off Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Since Turner uses that very word to describe himself, we didn't think our readers would be offended. However, you provided us with a most enlightening peek into the complexities of human interaction by your use of the

term "V.B.F.". Many women find it offensive to degrade female body parts by using them to form insults, especially when those insults are directed from one man to another man.

Okay, I'll take the bait: I like James Marshall. In L.A., we have a boring critic who compares everybody to Bruce Springsteen and thinks that's incisive analysis. Well, I hate incisive analysis. Readers, listen to the man and learn.

—J.M.

Panorama City, California

I recently became a regular consumer of your magazine and I like your noholds-barred, cutting-edge journalism. In addition to the wide spectrum of article topics, news, and home-growing info, I thoroughly enjoy High Art, Zoë, and Hep Cat. On the subject of James Marshall, I must agree the man is an asshole. However, I am not in favor of dumping his column. Personally, I like an author who has the balls to piss everybody off.

-Rug Denver, Colorado

ALCOHOL VS. POT

I'd like to respond to Peter Gorman's article on marijuana and health (November '87). I'm a former alcohol abuser who now smokes marijuana. Even while high, I have enough control and clear thinking to carry on with everyday functions, whereas with alcohol I did not.

— S.J.V.

Charleston, West Virginia

GOREY FUTURE?

We have our candidate and his name is Gore! Senator Albert Gore announced on November 8th that both he and his wife have smoked marijuana. Fifty million people have been waiting for this opportunity. Register with the Democrats and vote Gore.

— Fed-Up Enough To Vote Wichita, Kansas

Albert Gore's wife is Tipper Gore, head of the PRMC, which has been censoring, grading and trashing rock music—especially heavy metal. After all the trouble Nancy Reagan has caused, do you really want to elect a first lady like Tipper?

THE PUNA STANDARD

In the absence of a strong dollar, I suggest the ODEC cartel seize the initiative and print notes convertible at a central bank for a pound of Hawaiian Puna Butter. With such a bold thrust, a new confidence in the world arena would certainly arise.

— D.H. Napa, California

MORE 'SHROOM INFO

I have a complaint regarding the October issue. Granted, the writing was excellent, but there wasn't one line devoted to growing those colorful little caps. As a lover of fine fungi, I relish grow info. Please feed our heads with as much data as possible.

— The Sicilian 'Shroom Buff Hazel Park, Michigan

In the past month, we've received numerous requests for a feature on growing mushrooms indoors.

Consequently, Stephen Peele, head of the Florida Mycology Center, is now hard at work on a mushroom cultivation article that will cover both dirt and hydroponics. Look for it in our May '88 issue. Requests for future articles should be directed to the Top 100 on page 97.

continued on page 77

DANSCO INDOOR GARDEN CENTERS

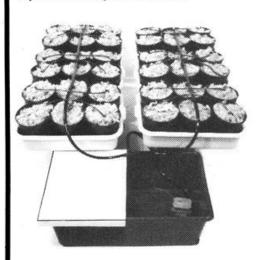
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HYDRO FLO I \$265°° Expansion Module \$16°°

NEW Hydro Flo I includes 6 trays with 36 one gallon Pyramid pots, reservoir, timer, pump, rockwool, 12 week supply of General Hydroponics nutrients with pH Control Kit and filter. Basic system covers 4'x5' area for 6-8 week cycle. Double the size of this system for only \$96 more!

Larger pumps and reservoirs allow us to custom fit these systems to your needs.



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with Exhaust Control \$279°° Basic injection system includes a heavy duty brass body regulator, brass solenoid valve.

timer, hose and fittings. Exhaust control and CO₂ injection are synchronized by using a second recycle timer which becomes the primary controller. The system is completely wired with dual outlets for exhaust and intake fans.

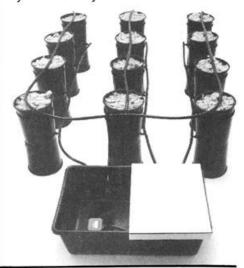


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HYDRO CELL II \$25000 Expansion Module \$600

Hydro Cell II includes 12 two gallon grow cells with reservoir, timer, pump, rockwool, 12 week supply of General Hydroponics nutrients with pH Control Kit and filter. Recirculating system is easily expandable to 36 cells without increasing pump size. Our 25 gallon reservoir should be used with more than 12 cells.

Larger pumps and reservoirs allow us to custom fit these systems to your needs.



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Mr. Burbank's methodology was extremely simple: (1) First he would GATHER the most extensive seed stock of a particular species from all over the world. (2) Then he would PLANT all of the seeds closely together. From the resulting ten thouular species from all over the world. (2) Then he would PLANT all of the seeds closely together. From the resulting ten thousand plants, he would (3) SELECT one or two that had the most pronounced characteristic of size or shape or scent or color or whatever he was looking for. (4) From those one or two plants, all of the seeds were PLANTED and from the resulting ten thousand plants, only one or two would be (5) SELECTED that further developed more of the desired characteristic. This process of planting and selection would be repeated as often as necessary from a few generations to hundreds of generations until Mr. Burbank would release the final seed stock to the rest of the world.

Mr. Burbank grafted one hundred different types of apple branches onto a single apple tree and each branch bore a completely different fruit the first year for his personal selection. Inventing this grafting technique, he squeezed thousands of years

of research into a few. The results of his work, from potatoes to apples to EVERY domesticated fruit, vegetable or flower, are what we grow today.

The Burbank Potatoe Quadrupled World Production in One Year. Luther Burbank never needed a lot of space. In his lifetime he conducted over one hundred thousand series of experiments and changed the world on less than three acres of land.



DENNIS ROBERT HOAGLAND, 1888-1949, was the inventor of the "four salt Hoagland solution" from which all HYDRO-PONICS are based. Although a brilliant botanist, Dr. Hoagland was interested in only one thing, the BIO-MASS (size and weight) of the TOMATO produced hydroponically. Working under the scientific assumptions of the early 1900s, Dr. Hoag-

land's world assumed four things:

A. Plants had a life cycle leading to death. WE NOW KNOW plants have a very different way of achieving a life and death A. Plants had a life cycle leading to death. WE NOW KNOW plants have a very different way of achieving a life and death cycle than does the human being. Humans are more genetically structured toward their life and death cycle than plants. Plants allow environmental factors to control not only their life and death cycle but their sex as well: Such things as (1) "PHOTO-PERIOD" (length of time under light and dark), (2) "THERMO-PERIOD" (length of time under temperature variation), and most importantly (3) "NUTRIENT PERIOD" (length of time under a given nutrient configuration).

B. Maximum SIZE and WEIGHT before death of (a) root, (b) shoot, (c) fruit-known as the "root to shoot to fruit ratio"—was the absolute goal. WE NOW KNOW the "root to shoot to fruit ratio" is a fallacy. There is no such thing. While keeping the same size as normal, both the root (below the soil) and the shoot (above the soil) can be minimized. And by reducing the inter-nodal content of the number o

lengths* (distance between the budding sites from an average of 6 inches to less than 1 inch), the number of the normal sized fruit will increase to thousands per plant. (*Footnote: See inter-nodal length graph in "The Garden" brochure.)

C. Plant "lush feeding" of excess nutrients meant nothing. WE NOW KNOW plant "lush feeding" kills the plant. The basis of the hydroponic method is that a fresh nutrient supply be pumped in while the used nutrient supply drains out. This allows the plant to absorb excess amounts of calcium. If allowed, the plant will absorb 10 times what it requires of calcium to the exclusion of other more beneficial nutrients like N, P, K, Mg, Na, Cl, etc. Too much calcium and the plant gets GARDENING OF THE ARTERIES and dies after one seasonal growth period.

D. An aquaeous (water) based system without a "buffer" (soil having a cation exchange capacity, C.E.C.) was best. WE NOW KNOW an aquaeous (water) based nutrient solution surrounding the root system without a "buffer" to protect the roots creates a "water root"—a thick, fleshy root that has layered itself with "fat" to protect itself. Nowhere near the amount of root surface area is produced hydroponically (water based) as when the roots are buffered against excess concentrations by a soil medium. against excess concentrations by a soil medium.

WE NOW KNOW that the soil mediums used by Dr. Hoagland, such as perlite vermiculite, and sand have no buffering action or "CATION EXCHANGE CAPACITY" (C.E.C.). The CATION EXCHANGE CAPACITY of a soil medium is the ability of that medium to ABSORB AND RELEASE a nutrient solution. The cation exchange capacity of the soil medium protects the root system and allows it to produce thousands more root structures, producing thousands more root structures.

The early 1900s did not have the advanced technology of 1986. Equipment for testing nutrient solutions and plant tissue such as the gas-liquid chromotographic assay (GLC), Thin-Layer chromotographic assay (TLC) and sophisticated atomic absorption equipment were not available.

With the aid of the computer since 1951, the medical profession by comparison has advanced in the last 30 years more than in the preceding 2,000 years.

If Dennis Robert Hoagland had access to 1986 technology in 1920, he never would have designed the hydroponic system.



JEFFERY JULIAN DEMARCO, 1951- ____, is President and founder of PYRAPONIC INDUSTRIES and is the inventor of the methodology known as GROWING PLANTS PYRAPONIMETRICALLY and the PHOTOTRON.

Three things are required to grow plants pyraponimetrically: 1. A laboratory grade growth chamber known as the PHOTO-TRON. 2. A specific METHODOLOGY for plant growth and manipulation (instructions). 3. A very specific NUTRIENT SUP-PLY COMPUTER DESIGNED IN PARTS PER MILLION (PPM) for each individual PHOTOTRON. The exact nutrient calibrations are individually calibrated based upon two soil samples taken from the phototron: one after FORTY-FIVE DAYS of plant growth and one after 90 DAYS of plant growth—ONLY TWO ARE REQUIRED.

Mr. DeMarco's Masters thesis was on the cannabinoid profile of marijuana. After working under both federal and state license in a laboratory at a major university for over two years, and since 1976 has developed the phototron, the methodology and the chemistry to study the internal workings of the plant (not just the SIZE and WEIGHT, but utmostly important to study the MOLECULAR and PHARMACOLOGIC properties of the plant). The research developed in pursuit of Mr. DeMarco's research PERTAINS TO ANY PLANT.

Pharmacognosy is the study of molecules produced inside plants. This type of study requires very sophisticated equipment like the Gas-Liquid Chromotogram (GLC), Thin-Layer Chromotogram (TLC) and Atomic Absorption.

THC-delta 9. the psychoactive molecule produced by the marijuana plant, is so microscopic that 100,000 molecules fit end to end would sit on the head of a pin. When you're concerned about growing structures so infinitely tiny, what difference does the size of the plant make?

In the disciplines of Botany, Horticulture, Plant Physiology, Soil Chemistry and Floraculture, a "root to shoot to fruit" ratio requires a large root and a

large shoot to grow large fruit.

Growing plants Pyraponimetrically (by exactly measuring all 21 environmental elements), requires the plant to produce minimal root, minimal shoot (inter-nodal lengths) and maximize the number of budding sites and size of the bud, flower or fruit.

To develop the (A) PHOTOTRON, (B) the CHEMISTRY and (C) the plant manipulation methodology known as GROWING PLANTS PYRAPONIMET-

To develop the (A) PHOTOTRON, (B) the CHEMISTRY and (C) the plant manipulation methodology known as GROWING PLANTS PYRAPONIMET-RICALLY, the marijuana plant was used because of its unique properties.

The PHOTOTRON was designed to: (1) GROW 6 PLANTS THREE AND ONE-HALF FEET TALL IN 45 DAYS; (2) Duplicate exactly the quality of the plant material the seed came from; (3) RE-FLOWER AND RE-BUD PLANT MATERIAL EVERY 45 DAYS UP TO 9 TIMES PER YEAR; (4) NEVER KILL-ING THE PLANTS. YEAR AFTER YEAR; (5) BE REMOVED FROM EVERY DAY. (The system is designed for plant removal, not containment); and (6) To produce 6-8 ounces of plant material every 45 days.

Growing Plants Pyraponimetrically will revolutionize indoor plant production as we know it today. At PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES, over 25 PHOTO-TRONS are used for new experiments. To date, PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES have successfully catalogued 17 varieties of flowering plants, 14 varieties of fruits and vegetables. 8 varieties of tobacco and will force flower roses 365 days per year.

fruits and vegetables, 8 varieties of tobacco and will force flower roses 365 days per year.

A year, or two years from now, PYRAPONIC INDUSTRIES will mass market the PHOTOTRON through the major retailers, on television and radio. I will look forward to working with you. Thank you very much.

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Jeffery Julian DeMarco President and Founder Pyraponic Industries

PHOTOTRUNZ

HAWAII VS THE PHOTOTRON

Hello, my name is Jeffery Demarco, President and Founder of PYRAPONIC INDUSTRIES.

My master's thesis is on the cannabinoid profile of marijuana. I tell you this for historical footnote only.

In pursuit of my own master's thesis, I generated the most extensive popular literature library in the world. Then, I generated the most extensive scientific bibliography in the world. I then went into a laboratory under Federal license at a major university in which I designed a laboratory grade growth chamber called the PHOTOTRON.

the PHOTOTRON.

If you read all of the popular literature: I did. All of the scientific literature: I did. And look at every apparatus that is in High Times, you will find one common denominator. Every system, UP TILL NOW, has attempted to re-create Hawaii. I suggest that when you finally achieve the re-creation of Hawaii, you can do NO BETTER than Hawaii's results. AND WHAT ARE HAWAII'S RESULTS?

In fact, you will grow the plant 6 to 9

In fact, you will grow the plant 6 to 9 months, 6 to 12 feet tall. In fact, you will average a 6-inch internodal length (distance between budding sites). In fact, have a 10% budding ratio at the tops of the plant. In fact, throw away 90% of the plant material (leaves/shake). And in fact, YOU MUST START ALL OVER AGAIN.

Look. The only thing I'm waiting nine months for is a baby, number one. Number two, I do not want a tree in my house. And number three, I am not going to pay the ELECTRIC BILL TO PRODUCE THE SUN somewhere in my closet. Do not let its pretty looks fool you. Do not let its size (3½ feet tall x 18 inches wide) fool you. Do not let its weight at 17 lbs. fool you. The PHOTOTRON will draw \$4.00 per

The PHOTOTRON will draw \$4.00 per month in electricity (average). My system is totally different.

In fact, you will grow 6 plants three and one half feet tall in 45 days, guaranteed. You will maintain a one-inch internodal length, guaranteed. That each plant will produce 1,000 budding sites, FROM TOP TO BOTTOM, guaranteed. And there will be 6 plants per individual PHOTOTRON, guaranteed.

And this is the only system in the world where you can re-flower and re-bud the exact same plants every 45 days, up to nine times per year without killing them off. EVER. Then, you may re-flower and re-bud the exact same plants every 45 days up to nine times per year while you remove from the system every single solitary day. Every day (average 6-8 oz, every 45 days). You remove from the PHOTOTRON every single solitary day, beginning on day 20 from seed germination.

I, personally, guarantee and service back the PHOTOTRON, so do not let its technical nature throw you. You will require THREE PAGES OF INSTRUCTIONS ONLY. Because the system is TOTALLY COMPLETE. You will do three things: 1. Select your seed. 2. Plug the system in. 3. Water it.

Then, if you have any questions at all, you may call me direct. Ask your question. Get your answer. And carry on about your business. You cannot fail with my PHOTOTRON. I do not allow any of my PHOTOTRONS to fall below SHOW-CASE. I have personally guaranteed every PHOTOTRON that has ever been sold. And I have never had one returned. I am not starting now.

"If you do not learn more about plant production than you have ever learned before, I will pay you for the call."



THE PHOTOTRON	NONE	24	YES							
Halide Systems	50%	1	NO							
		/								/

LEAF SELT OF LOCAL
UNEAR FEET OF LOCAL
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COMPUTER DE-MALE SEA

COMPUTER PENALE SEA

GUARANTEE FEMALE SEA

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GUARANTEE

G

plant production than you have ever
learned before, we will pay you for the call.
CAN YOU AFFORD NOT TO CALL US. Or, send
a \$3.00 money order for our brochure, "THE GARDENGROWING PLANTS PYRAPONIMENTRICALLY" to:

PYRAPONIC INDUSTRIES, INC2, P.O. BOX 1071, MELROSE PARK, IL 60160

 photograph presented from university conducted research for Masters Thesis entitled "Factors Controlling Resin-Production and Plant Growth," pertaining to any plant.

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PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES: GROWING PLANTS PYRAPONIMETRICALLY

PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES MAINTAINS: (1) The most extensive scientific literature library in the world. (2) The most extensive popular literature in the world. (3) The most extensive library of Data Packages and Soil Analysis selected from over 3,000 PHOTOTRONS sold worldwide. (4) On premises, over 25 PHOTOTRONS with the capacity of three shelves each so that up to 75 experiments may be ongoing at any one time. Jeffery Julian DeMarco, President and Founder of PYRAPONIC INDUSTRIES and PYRAPONIC LAB-ORATORIES, maintains his PHOTOTRONS for the purpose of killing plants. It is only after experimenting with the parameters of death at PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES that the PHOTOTRON can perform so miraculously around the world. Said to be the number 1 herbicidal maniac, Mr. DeMarco has full-time laboratory technicians on staff and has the most extensive technical consulting network from Universities around the world. PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES maintains the most sophisticated on-premises computerization for data analysis and retrieval in the world. Thousands of experiments have been conducted and thousands more will be ongoing to expand ever further the performance of each PHOTOTRON. As PYRAPONIC LABORATORIES introduces new methods or nutrient formulations, each PHOTOTRON owner is contacted so that every PHOTOTRON is upgraded long after it has been purchased. THE PHOTOTRON IMPROVES MORE AND MORE THE LONGER YOU OWN IT!

GROWTH PATTERN OF TOMATOES GROWN PYRAPONIMETRICALLY -



Young tomato plants in vegetative stage.



Young tomato plants beginning to flower and fruit.



Fruiting less than an inch apart.



"Normal" fruit development with a reduced root-to-shoot ratio.

GROWTH PATTERN OF CUCUMBERS GROWN PYRAPONIMETRICALLY -



Typical testing pattern by Pyra-Plants nearing top of Phototron ponic Laboratories depicting the in less than 30 days. morphological differences of cucumbers grown under identical conditions except one nutrient level.





Plants filling the Phototron in less than 45 days.



Tremendous flowering and fruiting less than an inch apart.



"Normal" fruit development with a reduced root-to-shoot ratio.

HERBS, VEGETABLES AND FLOWERS GROWN PYRAPONIMETRICALLY .



Herbal garden at 65 days of Parsley, Sage, Basil, Oregano, Thyme and Chive



The hottest jalapa pepper grown anywhere in the world.



Laboratory experiment producing complete root systems on the stem structures of flowering marigolds.



"Normal" marigold flower size produced with reduced root-toshoot ratio.

GROWTH PATTERNS OF ZINIAS AND SNAPDRAGONS GROWN PYRAPONIMETRICALLY



Day 44: Phototron jammed with flowering zinias.



Day 52: "Normal" zinia flower size produced with reduced rootto-shoot ratio.



Day 46: Phototron jammed with flowering snapdragons.



Day 58: "Normal" snapdragon flower size produced with reduced root-to-shoot ratio.

HIGHWITNESS NEWS

MARCH'88

NO. 151

Photo Lab Helps Cops Bust

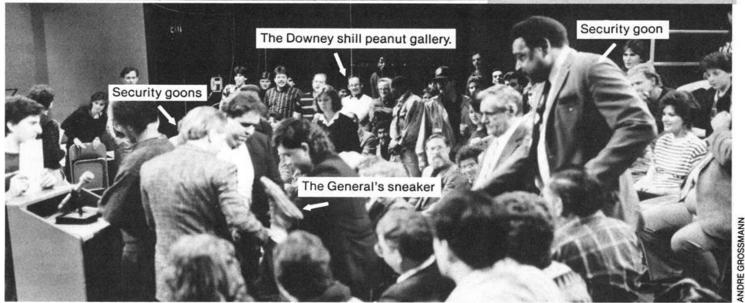
Grower! (Page 20)

Kerr-McGee Sez: "Let 'Em Eat

Raffinate!" Page 20)

Dutch Bulldog Muzzled!

(Page 21)



Assault! Not an uncommon occurrence on the set of the Morton Downey Jr. Show.

Downey vs. HIGH TIMES

TV's most infamous slapper takes on the Wacky-Weed Weirdos in a 5-round main event.

by Steven Hager

Morton Downey is proof you can make money underestimating the intelligence of the American people. Since last November, Downey has hosted a talk show on WWOR-TV in Secaucus, New Jersey. Unlike most talk shows, which attempt to air several sides of an issue (however boring that may be), Downey eschews fairness in favor of grandstanding rightwing theatrics in the Joe Pyne tradition.

The basic idea is to get idealistic liberals on the show (Downey calls them "pablum pukers"), and then hurl invectives at them with the help of a rabid pro-Downey audience.

The show is sometimes amusing, sometimes boring, but mostly downright scary. How can a strutting fascist get access to prime-time TV to air his prejudices? Even intelligent rightwingers are embarrassed to be associated with clowns like Downey. Instead of presenting arguments to support his views, Downey usually threatens to beat-up anyone who disagrees with him—threats that are made while Downey is surrounded by security guards.

The show is produced by Quantum Media, Inc., a company owned by WWOR-TV (a subsidiary of MCA) and Bob Pittman, former head of MTV. A self-proclaimed boy-wonder, Pittman has already shown his penchant for formulized media garbage with his handling of MTV. Now he wants to create a talk show for the wrestling audience. In Downey he's found his perfect tool.

Downey has a proven flair for media stunts. In 1986, while working as a host of a radio talk show in Chicago, he crossed the Mexico-Texas border with 43 illegal aliens. "If we can't defend the border from illegal aliens, who can we defend it from?" asked Downey, implying Texas was under imminent threat from foreign invasion.

This stunt brought him to the attention of Pittman, who was looking for an Ed Anger-type (a rabid columnist for the Weekly World News) to launch on TV. Pittman's career is barely off the ground, but he already has plenty to answer for. Although he takes credit for "creating" MTV in his press releases, Pittman ac-

tually had little to do with creating the show since it was in pre-production before he joined Warner-Amex Satellite Company. However, a short time later, Pittman had successfully catapulted himself above his superior, thus earning him a reputation as a dangerous corporate shark. Last year, when Pittman founded his own record company, the announcement was made with a full-page ad in *Billboard* heralding Pittman's past achievements. "The guy is an unashamed self-promoter," said a Warner's executive. "One of the most egotistical guys I know."

Naturally, when HIGH TIMES got a call from Quantum last December asking us to appear on Downey's show, we decided to stroll into the belly of this beast. The subject was urine testing, and Jon Gettman from NORML, Dr. John Morgan of the City University of New York, and Jeremiah Guttman of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) were also invited along. Here's what happened:

continued on page 22

HOW TO GET BUSTED Lesson #1: The Arresting

Photograph

Let's hear a group moan of sympathy for Christopher Aaron of White Lake Township, Michigan. That's him in the picture up there, standing proudly in front of a pretty healthy-looking pot plant, said to be about ten feet tall. People send snapshots like this to us all the time, and apparently suffer no unpleasant repercussions. Not so this time, unfortunately, as the drugstore where Aaron had his film developed ran off a few extra prints and dropshipped them over to the local cop shop. Tracing Aaron through the license plate of his pickup (included in another photo on the roll), members of the Oakland County Narcotics Enforcement Team swooped in on the poor schmuck and harvested eighty pounds of manure-fed weed growing on land surrounding his house. Aaron, along with his girlfriend and two neighbors, were arrested and charged with manufacturing a controlled substance, for which the maximum penalty in Michigan is four years in the joint and two grand out of your pocket.

Our advice? Stick to Polaroids, or a processing lab you can trust (if such a thing exists). •

RAFFIN-EAT

by Dick Russell

Last spring, when a siting study done by a New York consulting firm failed to pinpoint a single "suitable" location in Oklahoma to potentially host a low-level radioactive waste facility for the Central states region, citizens in four other states within the compact arrangement were outraged. The reason? Not included in the study's waste-producing records was a vast amount of uranium sludge and other material generated at two Kerr-McGee plants.

But as it turns out, that oversight (a citizens' group, the Arkansas Alliance, uncovered it by a simple check of Department of Energy waste-shipping records) was only the tip of the iceberg surrounding Kerr-McGee's current practices for disposal of the nuclear waste emanating from its Sequoyah Fuels Corporation (SFC).

For many years SFC had been dumping what they called "treated raffinate waste", about five million gallons worth, into deep-injection wells. This practice was stopped by appeals to Oklahoma authorities primarily from people among

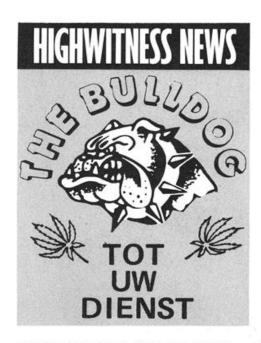
Dick Russell is a Boston-based reporter specializing in environmental issues. His work has appeared in The Nation, In These Times, and The Amicus Journal.

the Cherokee Nation, within whose boundaries it was occurring. Simultaneously, however, and still ongoing, the corporation has dumped at least 11,000 pounds a year of liquid uranium waste into the confluence of the Illinois and Arkansas rivers. This has been allowed under a permit granted in 1982 by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board. whose overseers include Robert S. Kerr, Jr., also a board member of Kerr-McGee. (Robert Kerr III is the state's current lieutenant governor.)

The Environmental Protection Agency cited the Sequoyah plant 21 times in 1984 and 1985 for exceeding the amount of waste-dumping allowed under a Federal permit and, after a Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) investigation revealed contamination along the riverbanks and suggested "a better method of transference," the SFC plant simply constructed a pipeline directly into the water. Last year, when the Native Americans for a Clean Environment group of Vian, Oklahoma requested a public hearing on whether to renew the expired state permit, Kerr-McGee stopped it with an injunction on grounds that this was an NRC matter. A letter from the NRC to a member of the Native American organization then revealed that the water board's permit actually allows up to 312,000 pounds of legal uranium dumping annually; 11,000 was

simply the purported average. The Cherokee Tribal Council, owners of the banks and bed of the river near the SFC plant, is now planning a lawsuit to try to stop the practice.

In the meantime, Kerr-McGee has come up with yet another wastedisposal plan-turning radioactive uranium waste into farm fertilizer under a new program licensed by the NRC. By adding barium salts to the evaporation ponds where the waste is held, SFC claims to achieve a tremendous reduction of radioactive particles. Setting up a 1,690-acre test plot last year, SFC began dumping treated raffinate waste onto open pasture land and grazing several small herds of cattle on it. SFC data submitted to the NRC showed no significant differences in raffinate versus commercially-fertilized pastures, and eventually the cattle were sold and shipped to local slaughterhouses. The Food and Drug Administration, responding to a complaint, revealed SFC's method of preventing buildup in the cattle of any of the 21 different heavy metals still in the raffinate - a system of pasture rotation and sophisticated feeding schedules which prevented any toxic materials from overaccumulating. Yet rumors persisted that the carcasses of one test herd had been disposed of, adding fuel to contamination fears. By the summer of 1986 the presence of cattle had dwindled and,



DUTCH BULLDOG CURBED

In an unprecedented crackdown late last November, Dutch police moved against the popular Bulldog Coffee House chain, Holland's largest string of dope-and-caffeine dispensing emporiums. Mounting a DEA-style entrapment operation, Dutch undercover cops arranged for a large-quantity hashish buy at the Bulldog warehouse and then dropped in for the bust, hitting both the storage facility and the five Bulldog public premises simultaneously.

While officially illegal, the sale of hash and related substances has been tolerated in Amsterdam's coffee houses for years, much as public prostitution has been allowed to flourish in recognized red-light districts. These activities, along with the widespread gambling action available to tourists, have given Amsterdam the aura of a "wide open city," thus making it a magnet for European fun-seekers. There has been some speculation that the pressure for this police action came from the disapproving U.S. government, which loves to give Sovietstyle advice to client states on what they should or should not allow their citizens to do. Not so, according to HIGH TIMES Senior Editor Ed Rosenthal, who was passing through Amsterdam at the time.

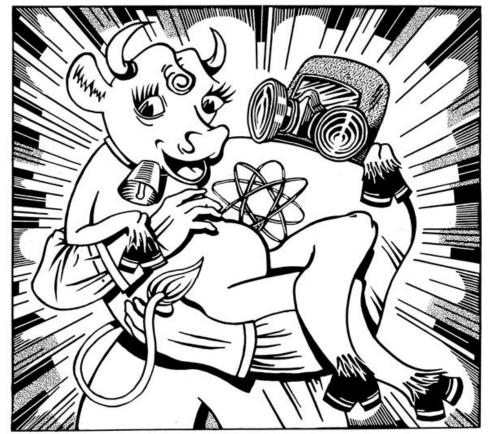
"The real pressure," Ed theorizes, "seems to be coming from other European Economic Community countries, such as Belgium and Germany—who have contiguous borders with Holland—and France, which is only a short train

ride away. There already is a great influx of young people from those countries into Holland, and within the next two years — when E.E.C. passport holders will be able to pass freely across member-countries' borders — that flow is expected to turn into a torrent." Apparently, it was the prospect of this off-to-see-the-wizard conga-line snaking into Amsterdam that caused these continental kill-joys to put the nudge on the happy Hollanders. "I think this might be the 'Crystal Night' for Amsterdam—the beginning of the end," Ed says.

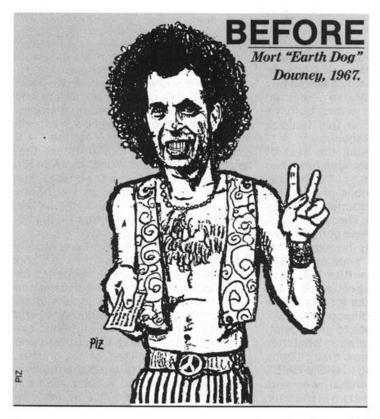
So far, the effects have been mostly cosmetic. Shuttered for only a short time, the Bulldogs quickly reopened for business and within two more days had resumed their customary, only slightly surreptitious hash-slinging. What did disappear, however, was all public evidence of dope availability at these and other similarly inclined coffee houses. Dutch police have ordered the removal of all signs, posters, window-stickers, menus, etc. that announce or describe the drugs on sale. They can still sell the stuff, they just can't solicit your business. The traffic continues, it's just a little quieter. Is this only the first squeeze of a steadily tightening stranglehold?

despite strong opposition from the surrounding farming community, Kerr-McGee went ahead with a purchase of 7,700 acres from Monsanto Ranch Properties to further develop the "pasture enrichment" program.

Today the principal crop of the company's agricultural experiment is hay forage for cattle. Tests conducted by environmentalists of hay grown with the treated waste has found higher levels of the heavy metals molybdenum and nickel than in commercial fertilizer. Although the waste "product" has not been approved for sale, NRC records indicate it might eventually be the cheapest, most ideal method for getting rid of millions of gallons of low-level radioactive waste. But stories persist of damage to wildlife in the surrounding area-an abnormal frog with five extra legs, a two-headed blackbird showing up at a bird-feeder, and goats, cattle and other animals dying mysteriously. Until this year, a large percentage of the hay was burned. Now, in what passes for a philanthropic gesture, Kerr-McGee is donating thousands of bales of the hay to the Navajo Indians being forcibly relocated by the Government in the Big Mountain sector of Arizona. (For years, Kerr-McGee also "donated" uranium tailings to Navajo land around Shiprock, New Mexico, where health problems have since been severe.) •



NICOLE EISENMAN





Downey

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The HIGH TIMES contingent arrived early, was given VIP treatment, and seated before the regular audience. We were, however, forced to walk through a metal detector, and the Downey staff confiscated several signs, including "Mort Tests Positive, He's a Dope."

Before the taping started, a staffer came out to check the mood of the crowd. "How many are in favor of urine testing?" he asked. The response was lackluster. Either most of the crowd was opinionless, or they were being intimidated by a mere 12 long-haired, scruffy HIGH TIMES contributors.

Downey made his usual entrance, pacing quickly past the audience and onto the stage. From the minute he walked in, it was obvious where the Downey shills were in the crowd. They had been carefully placed at the back so as not to stand out too much.

"Let me tell you something," began Downey. "They're tryin' to blame the kids for drugs in this country, but that's a lot of crap. It's the older folks. Those are the ones makin' the bread, and those are the ones who need to be wiped out like vermin. Drug testing...is that the answer? Let's find out!"

The first 15 minutes of the show was pretty boring. Downey gave the anti-drug spokespeople a chance to state their position, and most were real wishywashy. The only comic relief was provided by The General, who kept shouting rebuttals to Downey's statistics.

Downey: "One out of five Americans use drugs regularly."

The General: "Yeah!"

Morgan: "Like you, Mort, you're smoking."

However, during the second commercial break, six security guards surrounded The General and physically dragged him out of the studio. The message was clear: if the HIGH TIMES crew kept it up, we'd all be tossed out.

Even Downey's anti-drug "experts" were waffling on random urine testing. Ed Fox, a drug rehabilitation counselor, didn't support it, and neither did Yvonne, a recovering drug addict. Governor Pete DuPont phoned in to suggest high school students get tested randomly, and was treated with a loud round of boos. Downey backpedaled by trying to separate marijuana from the issue.

Downey: "Let's forget about marijuana."

Gettman: "No, let's *start* with marijuana. Any settlement on the drug issue has to accommodate the marijuana smokers."

Downey: "But that guy selling marijuana is the one who wants to kick you up to harder stuff."

Gettman: "Not really."

Several times the audience was treated to the sound of "I Want To Take You Higher" by Sly and the Family Stone, while seeing footage of an Amtrak train crash. The accident, which occurred on January 4th, 1987, resulted in 16 deaths, and the blood of the driver was found to contain a THC metabolite.

Dr. Morgan repeatedly tried to explain this did not mean the driver was high at the time of the crash. "Drug testing does not show impairment," said Morgan. "It only shows that someone may have smoked a marijuana cigarette up to 30 days before the test."

Cornered once again, Downey turned to his clipboard. "Eight out of ten people arrested in New York in a serious crime show cocaine use!"

"Where does that figure come from?" asked Jeremiah Guttman of the A.C.L.U.

Downey: "You don't have any figures! You can't back up a damn thing you say! You're full of bull!"

Guttman tried to answer this allegation, but Downey cut him off several times.

Downey: "Shaddap! Shaddap! Shaddap!"

Holmstrom: "Go back to Cleveland!"

Downey (after moving to the side of the stage and standing near his six

security goons): "Watch your mouth, lipper! You got a big mouth when you're a long distance away."

Stathis: "Easy to say with your goons around you!"

Downey: "Cool your mouth, flip lip!"

Later in the show, Downey zeroed in on Holmstrom once again, perhaps because of his prominent HIGH TIMES baseball cap.

Downey: "What do you think about drug testing?"

Holmstrom: "I don't want the government looking through my urine, and I don't want them looking through my house! And that's in the Constitution! Unlawful search and seizure!"

Downey: "Then how can we slow down the rapid use of drugs?"

Holmstrom: "Drugs or drug abuse?"
Hager: "What about Ollie North? He's
the one who brought all the cocaine in."
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TORNIL IZER WHY MARIJUANA WILL BE LEGALIZED

by Jon Gettman, NORML National Director

ublic debate about marijuana laws focuses on marijuana, and how dangerous it is supposed to be, rather than a straightforward discussion of why people ought to be jailed for something they do at home. Recently a new twist has been added to the suppression of marijuana smokers—denying them jobs on account of off-the-job marijuana use. The backlash to urine testing makes the legalization of marijuana inevitable.

Controversy has clouded the important questions about marijuana smokers. Why do they use marijuana and why are they still considered criminals? People use marijuana because they like it; many find it a safe alternative to alcohol. They are considered criminals because the government refuses to acknowledge their rights to make their own decisions about marijuana use—which they do, despite the laws.

Firing an employee for using marijuana at home is as unjust as firing an employee for reading Das Kapital. Arresting a couple for smoking marijuana in their bedroom is as unjust as arresting them for using contraceptives. Discriminating against an American in employment or housing based on their contemplative practices is as unjust as discrimination based on religious beliefs.

Marijuana prohibition makes a mockery of freedom and privacy, and when the public understands this there will be drastic changes in attitudes about marijuana legislation. The moral cost of hypocrisy commands change in a free, democratic society. The political costs will simply become too great to bear. A lot of political capital is invested in the morality of re-



specting privacy, as evidenced in the Bork hearings.

The Democratic Party has been in a state of confusion over the last twenty years. They adopted almost all the policy positions popular with the young in the 1960s except marijuana legalization and thought that was enough to win their loyal support in the coming decades. Instead they saw Nixon and Reagan gain two-term presidencies. Jimmy Carter is the only Democrat to win the White House during the last twenty years, and he ran on a platform that included marijuana decriminalization.

Many marijuana smokers, as yet, do not vote. The Census Bureau reports that only twenty percent of young whites, for

example, voted in 1986. Most marijuana smokers, young and old, are disgusted and cynical about a political process that denies them the same privacy rights of other Americans. This has been the goal of the Reagan anti-marijuana policies, openly referred to as a program of suppression by the Justice Department. Ironically, the commission appointed by Nixon in 1972 which endorsed marijuana decriminalization cited increasing disrespect for the law and our legal system as the most dangerous consequence of criminal marijuana laws.

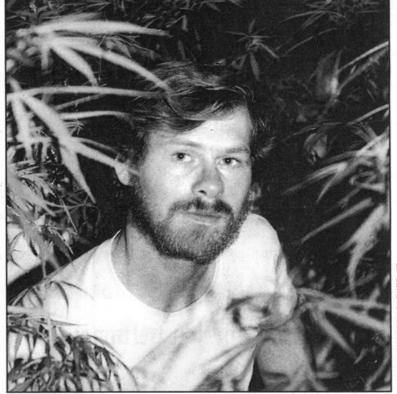
It is urine testing that is quickly moving the marijuana issue to the top of the national agenda by making marijuana illegality a pocketbook issue. These tests are making otherwise good, competent employees angry, resentful, frustrated, and ready to assert their political rights.

As urine testing spreads during the next two years this resentment will find its voice in public protest, transforming the controversy over marijuana into a populist debate over privacy, freedom, and land use—real values all Americans treasure. When marijuana smokers take their grievances directly to the public, sympathetic politicians will find the courage—that is, voter support—to challenge prohibition.

The legalization of marijuana is inevitable because the moral and political costs of sustaining it are simply too great. It is inevitable because urinalysis-based discrimination provides marijuana smokers with a grievance. Historically, large populations who are defined by their common grievance are the most powerful political force in America.

CASEIN CASEIN CASEIN

EPILEPTIC'S NEED FOR LEGAL POT



Terry Parker, Jr. in his garden. He claims smoking pot helps him endure his epilepsy—but Canadian doctors and judges say he just wants to get high. Who's the criminal?

by Maura Less

Canadian Terry Parker's life has been marked by a series of horrible misfortunes. He has suffered from almost all possible types of epilepsy, from grand mal (the horrifying seizures one usually associates with epilepsy; eyes rolling back, violent physical jerking), to petit mal (also called absence—where the epileptic suddenly becomes completely unaware of his surroundings and may or may not go on to pass out), to "myclonic Jacksonian" seizures (where the victim acts "robot-like").

He has suffered ineffectual brain surgery twice, and has been placed on the usual heavy doses of antiepileptic drugs, all of which have unpleasant side effects. It is a grim but little-known fact that about 25 percent of all epileptics cannot be helped by conventional medication.

One drug, however, really does help control his seizures: marijuana. Parker found that smoking pot in conjunction with his usual anticonvulsants (mysoline, dilantin, and tegretol) significantly decreased both the frequency and the severity of his seizures.

He also found that it helped him better deal with the "prodrome"—the time immediately preceding a seizure—which he described in a 1983 interview as follows: "First there's the feeling of being invaded

by a ghost or evil spirit. It takes possession and controls me. I get nauseated. There's a tingling sensation in my arms and legs. The movement inside becomes more violent. My eyes jerk back; my arms and legs become

detached. I have no control over myself."

Parker decided that, as several cancer patients and people with glaucoma have been allowed to use legally prescribed marijuana, he would apply for permission as well.

But things did not work out as planned. The Toronto medical authorities subjected him to a nine-week in-hospital study in Toronto's Addiction Research Foundation (ARF), in which he was "not able to leave, subjected to daily EEGs, bloodwork, needles in your head," the works. He was told the substance he was being given was marijuana. In fact, he was given only THC.

But THC is not marijuana—there are many other psychoactive ingredients in pot, few of which have been synthesized and studied.

The THC study—at the cost of nine hospitalized weeks in Terry Parker's already less-than-happy life—was inconclusive. It showed neither a positive nor a negative effect for marijuana on Parker. The doctors concluded that he just wanted to get high and that pot has no appreciable effect on epilepsy.

When Parker realized that THC, not marijuana, had been used in the study, he channeled his frustration and anger into more research. He talked to scientists all over the U.S. and Canada and acquired reports of studies on another constituent of marijuana and its effect on epilepsy.

This ingredient is cannabidiol—or CBD for short —and in two studies done in the early eighties and published in the *Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*, it showed significant anticonvulsant effects. "A 90

percent success rate," said Dr. Paul Consroe, a collaborator in one of the studies.

But Parker could not find a Canadian scientist to undo what the ARF study had done: as far as Canada was concerned, the case of marijuana's efficacy on epilepsy was closed.

Scarred by frustration and forced to live on a tiny government pension (since his uncontrolled seizures made it impossible for him to work), Parker continued to receive pot and treat himself with it illegally.

During the ten years since he discovered that marijuana helped him, he has been busted five times on charges ranging from cultivation to ½-gram possession(for which he has already done seven days time—the case is still pending).

He has spent much time and money fighting for the right to lead a somewhat normal life, but Canada's legal system has responded by draining him both financially and emotionally. He is little closer now to his goal of legal pot for epileptics than when he started in 1977, despite a preponderance of evidence in his favor.

Smoking pot allowed him to go from being on a disability pension to holding a productive job as an apprentice mason. He does not smoke on the job and has been assaulted by a system whose contradictions maul what they are supposed to protect. Anyone with information that might be helpful to Terry, or epileptics who have had experience with marijuana, are encouraged to call him at (416) 533-7756 or write him at 2209-55 Triller Ave., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6R 2H6. ●

Downey

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Downey quickly called for a commercial. When the show resumed, he vented his obvious frustration on Gettman.

Downey (ranting): "You can hype your organization with all you're trying to shove down with your fancy Brooks Brothers suit! It doesn't mean crap! All the hippies look like this! We have cleaned ourself up and we are with society!"

Downey moved on to Carlo McCormick. "What about this guy who looks like Marianne Faithful? I used to look like that," he said with a smile.

"You're pretty scary looking yourself, Mort," said McCormick.

"I am," agreed Downey. "Just remember that when you meet me in a dark alley. Howie, get your camera on this guy, the acid prince of HIGHTIMES."



Sean Morton Downey, Jr. was born in 1923, the son of Sean Morton Downey, Sr., a well-known singer and radio personality, and the actress Barbara Bennett. He grew up in Greenwich, Connecticut, Beverly Hills, and London, and spent his summers in Hyannis Port, Massachusetts, playing softball with the Kennedy kids.

Downey's pampered, rich-kid lifestyle was interrupted by the divorce of his parents in 1931. His father won custody in a bitter, public battle, after accusing Bennett of heavy drinking. A problem child, Downey was sent to military school. "I only saw my father three or four times a year," he says.

Aided by his father's connections, he pursued a career in singing and songwriting. "I'd met a group of Okies who were singers," he says, "and we played a lot of country and rock 'n' roll. I'd written songs before that for Patti Page and Eddie Fisher. Not being a person who gives up easily, I decided I was going to keep at it until I had a gold record. 'Boulevard of Broken Dreams' sold a million copies and I went on the Dick Clark Carayan."

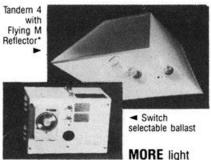
Downey ran out of money in El Paso, Texas, and took a job as a disc jockey. Before long he was fired. The following year, in 1959, he spent 90 days in jail for writing bad checks. Though he claims his financial problems were orchestrated by his father, Downey says jail was the turning point in his life: "The best lesson I ever had." However, after being released, he burned his way through 15 deejay jobs in three years, getting fired from each one.

Downey had gotten his first taste of continued on page 77





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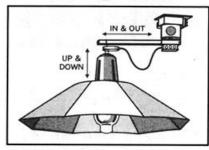
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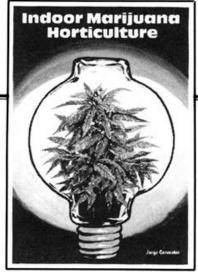


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	"one-hit shit" Thai-indica, "pow- erful as hell"	oz	200
		oz	240
	serious rush" Skunk hybrids, "donkey-dick	oz	150-200
	buds" Hydro-Afghani, "killer, tastes	OZ	300
	like lemons" Placitas Afghani, "bitchin"	OZ	200-400
	mountain dope" Basic Mexican, "lime-green, no seeds"	lb	700-900
	Dirt-brown Mexi- can, "seeds 'n' stems"	lb	500-800
	Black hash oil, "killer"	gm-vial	10
	Black hash, "awesome stuff"	gm	8-10
	Mushrooms, freeze-dried, "crazy, wall	gm	6-10
	bounces" LSD	one	5
	Cocaine, "for	100 8-ball	100-200 200
	basers and junkies, very good"	O-Dalli	200
Ann Arbor, MI	Sang Nam Special, "stick-to-the-wall buds"	1/4-OZ OZ	45 150
	Thai weed, "tasty"	1/4-OZ	35
	Detroit homegrown,	1/4-OZ	20
	"lame shake" Killer bud, un- known origin, "red buds, best	1/2-0Z 1/4-0Z	35 50
	this year" Acid, Purple Micro- dot, "shit"	hit	3-4
Tampa, FL	Florida Kickass	oz lb	90 100
	Sinse, bud Florida Skunk Buds, "hydro-	oz lb	100-125 1200-1400
	grown" California orange, "hydro-grown, hard to get	oz	125-200
	quantities" Skunk #1,	1/4-OZ	50-75
	"awesome"		
	Indica Skunk Buds, "real stoney"	1/4-oz 1/4-lb	30-35 300
	Green sinse of un-	1/4-OZ	30
	known origin, "red hairs, speedy high"	1/4-lb	275
	Plain brown CBO	1/4-OZ	25
	Blond hash, "cere- bral buzz, come	¼-lb gm	220 7
	Imported black hash, "mind-	gm	10
	blowing" "Shrooms, "eat "em fresh, trip for hours, pick	-	free
	your own" Acid: Musical	one	6
	Note blotter Acid: Orange or Purple	one	5
	Microdot	Contract	00
	Cocaine, "it's a fuckin' snow-	gm 8-ball	90 225
	storm, never seen so much around"		975

Send quotations to: THMQ, 211 E. 43rd St., New York, NY 10017. THMQ is intended solely for informational purposes. All entries should be typed or neatly written: If you are unable to compose a legible entry after testing your samples, please wait until you have control of your penmanship before sending us your information. Marijuana is listed by ¼-ounce, ounce, ¼-pound and pound prices only. Don't bother sending prices for hard drugs. Prices in this issue are current as of December 10th, 1987.

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spy La Copa or St 2-8484.	teve Hagerat HIC	GHTI	Please o MES, (2)
Toronto, Canada	Homegrown,	lb	1400
	Thai stick, "mind- blowing"	lb	2600
	Hydro bud, "a nice buzz"	OZ	180
	Black hash, "Gold Seal, but fairly cut"	OZ	220
	Black hash, "kinda mouldy, but pure, excellent"	¼-lb	750
	LSD: Grateful Dead, from Buffalo	hit	5
	LSD: double- barrelled Purple Mics, "always around"	mic	4
Vancouver,	Thai, "tasty,	1/4-0Z	45-50
B.C., Canada	smooth, good high"	1/4-lb	,550-650
	Rambo Cambo,	1/4-OZ	50
	"dirty, seedy, all right stone, overpriced"	1/4-1b	600
	Imposter Skunk	1/4-OZ	70
	weed, "stinky, nice taste, low THC, wet, buyer	OZ	200-250
	beware" Hydro Skunk #1,	1/4-02	75-80
	"beautiful, reli- gious experience, 22% THC"	OZ	250
	Indian Indica Kush, "rare, pricey, smells great"	OZ	270
	Keemo Bud, "sup- posedly from hospital, mind-	OZ	300
	blow, super rare" Hash, black Leb rock, "good, long high"	gm 1/4-0Z	15 60
Winnipeg,	All prices in Cana-		
Manitoba, Canada	dian dollars: Thai, "heavy	1/4-0Z	65
•	lumber, seeds" Buddha Thai,	OZ	225 75
	"wickedest herb in town"	1/4-0Z 0Z	275
	Indoor-grown	1/4-0Z	60
	skunk, "pleasing,	oz	200
	good buy" Jamaican, "dark,	lb gm	2400 15
	almost black,	1/4-0Z	80
	rare"	oz	300
	Afghani-black,	gm	12
	"heaven"	1/4-0Z	70 240
	Repress hash,	oz	10
	"crap"	oz	200
	Mushrooms, "un- limited supply"	oz om	150 25
	Weed oil, "has been cut"	gm 340	20
	been cut" Purple Microdot,	hit	3.50
	"do 2 or more" Amber Pyramid, "got a spare 36	100 hit	200 7

AROUND THE U.S.

Annapolis, MD	Green pot with little red hairs, stemmy, seedy, heavy high,	OZ	80
Columbus, OH	"plentiful" Greens, "speedy" Cannabis indica, "different grades, from smooth to choke"	joint oz	10 230
	Cannabis sativa. "some good pur- ple multicolor around, very intense"	oz lb	90 1200-1800
	Meigs Co. indica, "a few seeds"	OZ	200
	Black hash, "resources,"	oz	190
Coronado, CA	exhausted" California Orange,	oz	180
coronado, en	"connoisseur	3/4-1b	375
	sinsemilla"	lb	1000
	Durban Poison, "very psycho-	oz	250
	active high" Skunk/Mex hybrid,	OZ	110
	"super piney sinsemilla, very	1/4-lb	350
	uplifting high" Northern Lights #5, polyploided, "in-fucking-	oz	300
	credible, known as Crypto here"		
	Mexican commer-	OZ	70
	cial, "from dark	1/4-lb	200
	brown to light green, quality varies as much as color"	lb	600
	Mushrooms,	gm	6
	"liberty caps	OZ	85
	from Oregon,	lb	750
Danbury, CT	pretty good" Red Mexican sinse	1/4-OZ OZ	40 125
	Green Mexican	lb 1/4-02	1400 25
	sinse	oz	100
		lb	1200
	Seedy Mexican	1/4-OZ OZ	50 180
	indica, "big full buds, real tasty"	lb	1800
	Jamaican sinse,	1/4-OZ	50
	"brown, sweet- smelling"	lb	175 2000
	Brown dirt weed.	1/4-OZ	25
	"local ripoff	oz	80
	special"	lb	1000
	Local homegrown indica, "some	1/4-OZ OZ	50 200
	good, some useless"	lb	2400
	Black hash	oz lb	150 1800
	Coke	1/4-gm	25
		oz	1500
El Cajon, CA	Thai, "stoney-	1/4-OZ	40-55
	ass weed" Skunk, Humboldt Co., "knocks your dick in the	1/4-OZ	50-60
	dirt" Indica, "around only during	1/4-oz	45
	harvest" Red-haired sinse, "always	1/4-OZ	25-30
	around" Homegrown, "green, airy buds"	1/4-OZ	15-20
	Generic dirt weed, "bought only in desperate measures"	1/4-OZ	10-15
	III CHOMP CO		

	Black Gold hash,	gm	10	ř.	Skunk #5, i
	"gets you	giii			Indoor Hyd
	wasted" Hawaiian Black	gm	10		Arkansas B
	hash, "same as Black Gold, gets				"grown or sacred Bu
	you fuckin'				River, ver
	wasted" 'Shrooms, "you fry	2-gms	10		potent, m a sativa hi
	rad for 5-6 hours				Psilocybe C sis, "alwa
	Acid, blotter,	hit	4-5		same"
	Checkerboard, "we got it all"				LSD: Comn Pig. Pigly
	Cocaine, "usually excellent flake	gm	90-100		Porky Pig Blotter,
	depending on who				clean to v
Kansas City, MO	you get it from" Red-haired sinse,	1/4-OZ	25-35	Sterling Heights.	Commercial
. Si	"pretty good" Green Mex, "good	lb 1/4-oz	1000-1250 25-35	MI	"yawn" Red Bud, "l
	stuff"	lb	1100-1200		orange, ge
	Jamaican, "old, but does the job"	lb	25-30 1000-1200		Homegrown
	Thai, "not the best, but pretty good"	1/4-oz lb	25-30 1250-1400		"brown as mixed, mi
	Hawaiian, "they	1/4-OZ	35-50 1300-1500		expanding
	say it's direct, appears to be	lb	1300-1300		lasts for 2 Light-green
	indica hybrid, real creeper,				"excellent smell, ½-j
	potent"		10.70		all you ne
	Skunk, "good, but expensive"	lb	40-50 1800		lethal" Black hash,
	Black hash, "good"	gm	8-12 180-250		"good bus Blond hash,
	'Shrooms	oz gm	7-10		"expando
	Acid, mostly	oz hit	100 3-5		boggling, numbing,
N	blotter	100	150-250		Michigan 'Shrooms,"
New Haven, CT	Green bud, "fluffy, smells like in-	1/4-OZ	50		you know
	dica, but you don't get				right peop LSD: Purple
	very high"		70.00		"OK"
	Green bud, dense, indica, very rare,	1/4-OZ	70-80		LSD: Twee Sunshine,
	"great high" Brown bud, "good	1/4-0Z	60		"clean, ev melts"
	buzz, but it	74 06	00		LSD: Star s
	tastes brown" Brown pot, "most-	1/4-OZ	40		"good bu much spe
	shake, yuk" Homegrown,	1/4-OZ	30-70		me" Coke, "80%
	"could be killer,	74 000	00.10	-	you know
	great year for people I know"			Tulsa, OK	Afghan, "c
	LSD, Globes, "fresh, clean	one 50	3 50		narcotic, blitz, rare
	nice trip"	100	80-120		Christmas'
	Street coke, "not usually good"	gm	100		Skunk, " make you
	Clean coke, "barely cut"	gm	120		stupefied Colombian
Omaha, NE	Dark green sinse,	1/4-OZ	45		"always l
	"very potent, best in years"	OZ	160		Mexican sa
	Green sinse,	1/4-02	35		"same ol ditchwee
	"average" LSD, Musical	oz hit	120 5		Psilocybe 's
	Note, "not real clean"				Cocaine, 50
Port Richey, FL	Hydroponic Cali-	OZ	200	University Park,	"big rock
	fornia Orange, "3-hit shit"			PA PA	"expensi
	Mexican Buds, "seedy"	oz	90		but go fo Mexican in
	Brown commercial,	oz	80		"good bu
	"who cares" Blotter acid	hit	5		cool high Mexican gr
Reading, PA	Coke Red-haired Jamai-	gm 1/4-oz	80 35		"mostly s cheap, re
	can bud,	oz	130		smoke" California l
	"scrape me off the ceiling"		0.5		"lost in n
	'Shrooms, "good if you know the	gm 1/4-oz	3.7		Nepalese Temple l
	right folks"	hit	1-4		"opium-l makes ye
	Blue Musical	me	1-4		float"
	Notes, Gold Stars, Blue Gels,				Mushroom "suck sh
	Globes, "all good,				give you breath"
	clean fun" Cocaine, "lots of it,	gm	70-90		LSD: Clow
	know people helps, rocks here				"boring a overprice
	and there"	16	55		LSD: Red
Richmond, VA	Thai Bud, "real Thai high"	1/4-0Z 1/4-lb	55 800		"mellow visuals"
	Skunk, "seedless, incredi-buzz"	1/4-OZ 1/4-lb	65 880		LSD: blotte "real cles
	LSD: White on	hit	5		and fresh
	White, "lysergic generation's				Coke, "bet average
	dream"	dron	4		100
	LSD: Pure Purple, "2 hits per drop,	drop 400-dps	350	IN T	HE BO
	rare, but in the eye, it's total			Bloomington	Purple Sku
p1	bliss"	16.500	25	Bureau, IN	"meaty, r
Springfield, MO	"juicy fruit smell	1/4-OZ OZ	35 120		purple di limper"
	indica" William's Wonder,	1/4-02	40-45		Afghani Sk superior
	indica			1	killer"

	Skunk #5, indica Indoor Hydro, "the best" Arkansas Bud, "grown on the sacred Buffalo	1/4-OZ OZ 1/4-1b 1/4-OZ	45 160 500 40
	River, very potent, more of a sativa high" Psilocybe Cuben- sis, "always the	gm	5-6
	same" LSD: Communist Pig, Pigly Wigly, Porky Pig, PIG Blotter, "very clean to very	5-6	
Sterling Heights.	dirty" Commercial Brown	1/4-OZ	35
MI	"yawn" Red Bud, "looks orange, good	1/4-OZ	35-40
	buzz" Homegrown, "brown and green mixed, mind- expanding buzz,	1/4-OZ	40-45
	Light-green sinse, "excellent pine smell, ½-joint is all you need,	1/4-OZ	50-65
	lethal" Black hash,	gm	8
	"good buzz" Blond hash,	gm	8-10
	"expando-mind- boggling, body- numbing, Michigan's best"	giii	
	"Shrooms, "if you know the right people"	gm	2
	LSD: Purple Dots,	hit	2
	"OK" LSD: Tweetybird	100 one	120 4-6
	Sunshine, blotter, "clean, everything melts"	sheet	100
	LSD: Star shape, "good buzz, too much speed for me"	one	2-4
	Coke, "80% if you know the right people"	gm	90
Tulsa, OK	Afghan, "complete narcotic, body blitz, rare"	1/4-OZ OZ	50 175
	Christmas Tree Skunk, "all buds make you really stupefied"	1/4-0Z 0Z 1/4-1b	35-40 140 450
	Colombian brick,	1/4-oz	25
	"always here"	oz 1/4-lb	80 250
	Mexican sativa,	1/4-OZ	20
	"same ole brown ditchweed"	oz	70
	Psilocybe 'shrooms, freeze-dried		7-10
	Cocaine, 50%-60%, "big rocks"	gm	100-110 1700-1800
University Park, PA	Thai Buds, "expensive, but go for it"	1/4-0Z	65
	Mexican import, "good buds, cool high"	1/4-oz	35
	Mexican green, "mostly shake, cheap, reliable smoke"	1/4-oz 1/4-lb	25 300
	California Buds,	1/4-OZ	50
	"lost in mail?" Nepalese Temple Ball, "opium-hash,	gm	15
	makes you float" Mushrooms,	oz	70
	"suck shit, give you bad breath"	hit	3.50
	LSD: Clowns, "boring and overpriced"	hit	2.50
	LSD: Red Stars, "mellow visuals" LSD: blotter,	hit	2.50
	"real clean and fresh"		267
	Coke, "better average"	gm	90
IN TI	HE BOOND	OCK	S

ington	Purple Skunk,	oz	100-160
eau, IN	"meaty, resinous, purple dick- limper" Afghani Skunk, "a superior hybrid, leither"	oz	120

	Afghan-Colombian, "a fine product, body buzz city"	oz	110
	Skunk #1, "superb taste, awesome stone"	oz	100
	Seedy homegrown,	OZ	40-100
	Local sinse, "quality varies, thanks for the farm support, Ronnie"	oz	80-140
	Hash oil, "2- hit tunnel vision"	gm	40
Chester, IL	Scum, Hawaiian	1/4-02	40
	crossbreed with skunk, very sticky, big reddish-green bud, "impressive"	oz	160
Rutland, VT	Indica, "purple	1/4-02	50-60
Adianopre sydnik (d. c.)	buds from the	1/2-02	100
	mountains, #1"	oz	170
	Jamaican brick,	1/4-02	60
	"good taste, burns quick"	OZ	150
	Loose Thai,	1/4-OZ	65
	"the real stuff"	OZ	250
	'Shrooms, "long-	1/4-02	25
	awaited, you'll never go back to synthetic forms"	oz	90
	Blotter acid,	one	5
	Hearts & Stars, "lots of strychnine"	sheet	100-250

TRANS-HIGH RKET LETTERS



FLORIDA

I keep reading letters in THMA, and if the assholes would spend their bucks on hydroponic gear, they wouldn't cry anymore. I've been hydroing for two years, and I ain't had nothing short of three-toke shit. Maybe you can hook me up with The Watcher in the Ring (Boca Raton, FL. November THMA). His voice has been heard.

Prince of Happiness Port Richey, Florida

I just recently moved to Florida, and am very upset with the marijuana scene here. People would rather spend their hard-earned money on crack. Fuck that shit! It is actually easier to find a \$20 crack rock than a 14-ounce of good herb. People down here in Florida will kill for a \$20 rock. I don't know about the rest of you, but as far as I'm concerned, there is nothing like coming home from work, kicking back on the sofa, and pulling bong.

L.B. (The Pound Man) Tampa, Florida

I thought it would be good to write a note for those people who will be Florida-bound in the spring. Be careful as to who you secure your drugs from. The cops down here actually deal drugs and then bust you for possession! I didn't even think that was legal! They also have beach patrols that watch for drug users. There is a heaviness in my heart when I have to be careful smokin' a joint on the beach. These are strange times we live in

continued over

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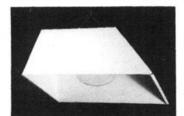
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continued from page 27

now. And "we the people" had better start fighting back before the weasels start closing in. HIGH TIMES is the only form of unity and communication we have, and there are a lot of us out here. So let's jump on the bandwagon and help them turn our country around. (Write your senators and representatives.) After years of reading HIGH TIMES, I decided this month that it was high time I joined NORML. As the smoke clears, I realize we must fight for our right to party.

But for now, it is late and I've been writing all night. So I'm going to load a massive hit of killer Christmas Tree Skunk Bud into "Big Red" (my three-chamber, nine-foot G.-graphics) and pull a serious bong. Then I'm going to put on some classic Pink Floyd and not worry about a thing until tomorrow. Peace forever.

The Bongmaster Bradenton, Florida

P.S. Pink Floyd in concert is not just a show, it's an experience.

MASSACHUSETTS

Three words describe the scene in western Massachusetts this fall: dry, dry, dry! It's so bad that some strains of dirt weed are going for \$45-\$55 dollars a 1/4-ounce. Good quality smoke is so hard to find that when it is around, it's gone within the day. Looking for psychedelics? Don't bother. You won't find them. There are 'shrooms around, but only a select few have access to them. The only good news is that the police are starting to come down on the coke dealers and coke busts are a regular thing. Ban the coke, bring back the smoke! Highly yours.

MORE Brother's Assoc. **New England Chapter** Chicopee, Massachusetts

MARYLAND

Please, please try to get someone from your editing department to stop putting in things in the Trans-High Market Quotations like in reference to acid (November '87 issue, Hagerstown, Maryland: "Clown, Checkerboard, White Blotter, a lot more since the Dead concert"). It's hard enough to tour around and see the boys without being hassled. We can't even put stickers on anymore for fear of being pulled over. My best friends in the world got busted on the way to Philly, and they're in lots of trouble! And they were checked out just for being Deadheads! We don't need this extra worry. Please, please, please help!

The Gweedo Brothers Maryland

MICHIGAN

Yo dudes! If you all wanna hang and smoke some good doob, then we've got the time and place for you. Come on by the Diag in Ann Arbor on April 1st. When the clock bongs 12 noon, the U. of Michigan "Hash Bash" will begin. Since

possession in this town is only \$5, what have you got to lose? And while you're at it, bring some good 'cid. The shit 'round here sucks!

The Stoned Boys of Apt. 13 Ann Arbor, Michigan

P.S. A Heritage of Leadership

NEW YORK

Where the hell is the exotic weed! Certainly not in southern Westchester County! All we can get is commercial for \$50 a 1/4 -ounce. It's okay, but we dearly miss Thai sticks and indica. Heads here prefer Nature's gifts over the synthetics. LSD is not much of a factor, but 'shrooms are quite popular. Most dealers now carry them and the quality is consistent. Coke is everywhere! Great for those occasional all-night parties, and the prices are way down like those for gasoline in early 1986. What was \$350 and 8-ball last year is now only \$125-\$150. Still grossly overpriced! There is a dramatic dropoff in that asinine flirtation with smoking cocaine-thank God. Fewer are even snorting it, preferring instead to - how shall I say it-put some real meaning in that logo "original formula" that is on the sides of cans and bottles of Coca-Cola. Infinitely safer and better in every way imaginable. (No coke craving and the high is twice as long.) Some low-lifes push crack - they ought to be wacked - it appears to be dying out. at least among those with any real intelligence! Cops' activities seem to hurt marijuana a lot more than refined cocaine. Just another example of how the mindless inhabitants of the White House. Ron and Nancy, are unwittingly promoting the substances with a much higher potential for abuse-refined cocaine over marijuana-let alone coca leaf (okay, all you heads who have actually ever seen a coca leaf, not to mention chewed 'em, raise your hands). Government and its Miami Vice-type assholes have got to be stopped. HIGH TIMES ought to organize a boycott of that ridiculous TV show. To those entrepreneurs out there: Please bring us those wonderful. exotic, green plants that get us high. Green money awaits!

Jolly Green

Westchester County, (just north of the Bronx) **New York**

NORTH CAROLINA

What's up? I just wanted to let you know that here in Raleigh, the Blue Meanies (mushrooms) have arrived. A quote from a friend: "You get off totally." They're going for \$30 a 1/4 -ounce or \$105 an ounce. As of 11/17/87. Thanks for good entertainment.

Cosmic Phil Raleigh, North Carolina

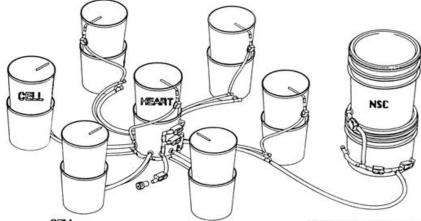
TEXAS

Just thought you'd like to know a bit about south Texas. Even with Ronnie's "crackdown," coke and smoke have been plenty around here. Even the prices have remained stable. We pay from \$350 for brown-green commercial Mexican to \$450 for the best. Except for two summers ago, there has always been smoke around \$40-\$50 an ounce (for the best smoke); \$90-\$125 for a continued over LIVING SYSTEM ==

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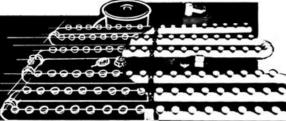
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continued from previous page

1/4 -pound. We might not have Hawaiian or Thai or other exotics, but we have cheap, kickass Mexican. Skunk is finally coming in large amounts from Mexico. Well, wish ya'll the best from Mission, Texas. By the way, the only local store in McAllen, Texas that sells HIGH TIMES, gets only 12 copies, and those are sold out in two days. What's the deal?

P.E. "Scum Dog" Mission, Texas

ALASKA

Here I sit at 6:30 in the morning, smoking my second hooter of the night, feeling wonderfully high. After living in Oregon for 19 years, three of those growing, I decided to trek up to Alaska to actually see what it was like where the ganja is supposedly legal. Well, let me tell ya, Alaska is fucking awesome! They produce buds that grow hair on your chest, almost. All herb is grown indoors, most cultivators residing in the Mat-Su Valley (Wasilla, Palmer). Some growing is done in Anchorage, but with three- and four-bedroom trailers renting for a measly \$300 to \$400 a month in the Mat-Su area, you can't beat living out in the boondocks: no neighbors for miles, the pit bulls can run free and wild, you can jam on your threewheelers and snow machines...life couldn't be better!

Now, about the buds: We grow the Rasta! Indicas are dominant-Matanuska Thunderfuck being legendary. Herb is always available, and almost all of it is kickass weed. Prices are kinda high for a place where it's legal: 1/8-ounce for \$35; 1/4-ounce for \$70-\$75; 1/4-pounds for \$675-\$750! Outrageous, huh? Coming from Oregon, where it's practically free, I was amazed. Oh well, me and my buddy grow our own, and then some. We plan on harvesting three or four pounds in about a month, using various skunk, big-bud, third generation sativas started from seeds collected in Oregon. While in Alaska; we have collected some exciting strains: Hawaiian, Thunderbud, Northern Lights x Skunk #1, Humboldt City Skunk (the largest, fattest leaves you'll see!).

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Well, time to crash, but everybody should check out the scene in Alaska. All you pussies in the states should come up to the real wilderness: killer buds, strip bars, blizzards, coke, acid-we got it all!

J.S. Buds, Inc. Mat-Su Valley, Alaska

P.S. There is only one grow store in the entire state, and it's in Wasilla. None in Anchorage. We need more!! Thank God it carries HIGH TIMES and Sinsemilla Tips, the two finest mags in the world!



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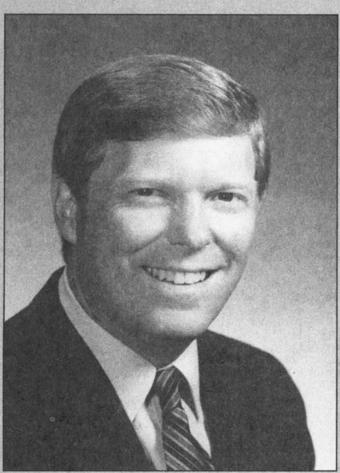
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THE POLITICS OF MARIJUANA: 1988 by Peter Gorman



In light of some of the more serious issues we face these days—nuclear arms build up, the mid-East crisis, AIDS, famine in Africa, apartheid, and the stock market crash, not to mention the fervor with which we're destroying our environment—the marijuana issue is pretty tame stuff. And since marijuana arrests dropped in 1986, while other drug arrests increased, there isn't much fervor for change

But this being a presidential election year and the end of the Reagan administration, there ought to be some thought given to the marijuana legalization movement. After all, by government admission there are 30 million regular pot smokers out there; marijuana is the nation's leading cash crop and tens of millions of people each year since 1985 have been subjected to the very insidious practice of urine testing.



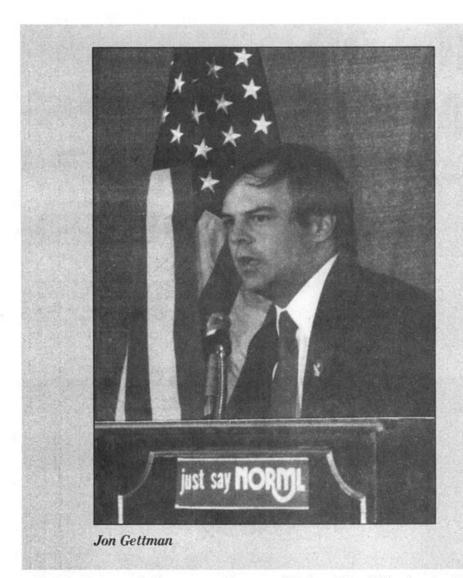
Rep. Richard A. Gephardt



Gov. Pete DuPont

They call this a choice?

HIGH TIMES called the major candidates for their views on the marijuana issue. Needless to say, no one supports decriminalization for personal-use growers. The most extreme position is represented by Gov. Pete DuPont (R), who supports random drug testing for all high school students. The most liberal stance, however, is offered by Rep. Richard A. Gephardt (D), who favors legal marijuana for medical use only. Gephardt believes we should drug test those individuals holding jobs involving public safety.



That last one really throws me. How the practice of investigating personal waste ever got accepted in a country which prides itself on individual rights is beyond comprehension. The only thing I can think of is that the world is in such a shambles that any time somebody tells us they've got a solution, we leap first and ask what the problem was later. It's a time of insecurity and lots of people are looking for blankets.

When Reagan announced that two million government employees were going to be urine-tested for the presence of drugs, he put the imprimatur on private-sector testing. And if there was a little personalprivacy invasion which went with it, well, hell, only drug users would complain. Let's not quibble about the Constitution. The theory was that by creating a climate of fear-fear of the positive test which could potentially ruin a career-the drug users would be forced to stop whatever they were doing and the drug problem would go away. In practice, smokers—having gotten used to the idea of living with fines in most states for simple possession—found themselves outcasts again, the hard fought

victories of the '70s wiped out by a countermovement in the '80s.

So marijuana and the personalprivacy issues damned well ought to be brought into the debate in the upcoming elections. But they won't be unless somebody sees to it that they are. "I could probably go up to Capital Hill right now and talk to the aides for all hundred Senators," says Jon Gettman, national director of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), "and probably get a lot of them to agree with me [about the legalization of marijuana]. But they're not going to go out and pass bills until there's public support. Politicians don't lead, they follow." And while Gettman doesn't see marijuana reform eclipsing the major topics of debate this year, he does see change on the horizon. "I don't see any problem in making this an issue in the next few years. I have between 30 and 50 million regular smokers out there who don't want to be criminals." NORML is one of the few organizations trying to educate people to the political realities of the marijuana controversy. Unfortunately, most smokers know little about the organization.

A BRIEF HISTORY

NORML has been fighting to legalize marijuana since 1971 when a young lawyer. Keith Stroup (rhymes with cop), fresh from working with Ralph Nader's National Commission for Products Safety, received a \$5,000 grant from Hugh Hefner's Playboy Foundation to get his project off the ground. At that time Hefner had never smoked but was intensely interested in anything which related to the issue of personal privacy and the rights of the individual.

Armed with Playboy's money, his own persona and the connections he'd made while working with Nader's group, Stroup and his followers began lobbying for marijuana reform. The time was ripe for it: marijuana had long since spilled out of the ghettos and underground and was being used or at least tried by huge segments of the general population. Other lobbying groups, Amorphia and LeMar in California, Blossom in Washington State, among others, were moving toward state-law revisions; Stroup saw NORML making a national change. He pointed out the system's inequities—that what might get you a suspended sentence in Oregon could get you 40 years in Texas, and often did-demanded to be heard at Congressional hearings and caught the spotlight. He was charismatic and politically savvy. By the end of the first year of NORML, Playboy upped its ante to \$100,000 yearly and Stroup was becoming nationally known.

In 1972 Nixon's hand-picked National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse released its findings. It was the most exhaustive study of marijuana ever conducted in the United States; and the commissioners included two U.S. senators, two U.S. representatives, a Republican governor, and various public-health officials, scientists, and law-enforcement officials. Here is what

they discovered:

"There is no evidence that experimental or intermittent use of marihuana (sic) causes physical or psychological harm. The risk lies instead in the heavy, long-term use of the drug, particularly of the most potent preparations.

"Marihuana does not lead to physical dependency. No torturous withdrawal symptoms follow the sudden cessation of chronic, heavy use. Some evidence indicates that heavy, long-term users may develop a psychological dependence on the drug.

"The immediate effects of marihuana intoxication on the individual's organs or bodily functions are transient and have little or no permanent effect. However, there is a definite loss of some psychomotor control and a temporary impairment of time and space perceptions.

"No brain damage has been documented relating to marihuana use, in contrast with the well-established

damage of chronic alcoholism.

"A careful search of literature and testimony by health officials has not revealed a single human fatality in the United States proven to have resulted solely from the use of marihuana."

Within a year Oregon became the first state to decriminalize the possession of less than an ounce of marijuana. The following five years were an exciting time for reformers: in the summer of 1975 five more states officially decriminalized and even in those which didn't, harsh jail sentences were reduced. The political game was growing heady. Tom Forcade, yippie turned publisher, founded this magazine and began contributing to NORML; Stuart Mott, heir to the Mott fortune, became a contributor; Bill Buckley wrote columns and spoke on television calling for marijuana reform as a way to get smokers involved in the political system; New York's Ed Koch submitted a bill for the decriminalization of marijuana in that state and Governor Jimmy Carter promised to call for national decriminalization if elected. And in the center of it all was Stroup, the outlaw lobbyist, making the scene, providing information and assistance to his acquaintances in Congress, learning the system, manipulating the media, providing headlines.

But Stroup was beginning to believe in himself a little too uncritically: he once spoke on television as prococaine; and when a plan to have Chip Carter testify in New Mexico for marijuana reform went awry-Carter had evidently agreed but had later been told that that was not something a President's son did-Stroup took it not only as a lobbying loss but as a personal affront and leaked the story to the press. Further, he indicated that members of Carter's personal staff were smoking dope and perhaps the police might make a few arrests over at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Which made him a hero in some circles but effectively cut any ties he might have had with the White House.

By 1978 decriminalization bills had passed in eleven states. NORML and the other pro-marijuana groups had essentially decriminalized possession of small amounts of marijuana in the United States; there were still states which could hold you for short periods of time for possession of an ounce in county jails, but no one was being sent to state or federal penitentiaries for simple possession anymore, and few were holding people more than 30 days. Which, while it wasn't legalization, was far better than it had been eight years earlier. It appeared that those states which had reduced or eliminated jail terms were only a step away from decriminalizing altogether, and those which had decriminalized were headed toward legalization.

And then, in December of '77, at

NORML's annual party, held in a Washington, D.C., townhouse that year and attended by such luminaries as Christie Hefner, Robert Kennedy's son David, Hunter Thompson, and President Carter's senior drug advisor Peter Bourne, the beginning of the end fell into place. In an upstairs room reserved for very special guests-which included several reporters, all of whom were sworn to secrecy—Stroup and Bourne rolled up a dollar bill and snorted cocaine. The act represented something of a truce between the two men whose relationship had become strained over the paraguat issue, and it would prove the downfall of both.

When Bourne was later caught, in '78 in a scandal for writing phony Quaalude prescriptions for a friend, Stroup took the opportunity to add fuel to the scandal by leaking—so the story goesthe cocaine bit to Jack Anderson of The Washington Post. It was a chance for Stroup to retaliate for what he saw as Bourne and Carter's backpeddling on marijuana reform. The childish action was a mistake. Bourne was already finished, but NORML was seen as out of its political depth and Stroup as out-ofcontrol. The lobbying group was effectively damaged and the pendulum began to swing in favor of those who had warned from the beginning that marijuana led to further drug abuses. The stage was set for a hard-liner like Reagan.



Keith Stroup

NORML AFTER STROUP

During the following five years **NORML** went through a period of difficult adjustment, partly caused by the public's change in attitude toward drugs—with Reagan's people calling for more arrests, dope smokers went back into the closet—but much of it caused by Stroup's departure. "**NORML** was crippled by Keith's departure. We had to learn to get along without him. No

organization runs on one person's drive, ambition, charisma, and talent."

Stroup had been a prolific fundraiser and many of his contributors found other worthy causes for their money when he left. Much of the time between '79 and '82 was spent simply trying to find new sources of revenue. During those first three years without Stroup, NORML's budget fell from \$500,000 annually to just over \$100,000. The organization had three different National Directors during those years, a period when, according to Gettman, NORML was "in the toilet."

During the fifth administration, under George Farnum, who had been one of Stroup's aides, **NORML** begain to turn the corner. Farnum increased revenues for the first time since Stroup's resignation, lending stability to the floundering organization.

The man who replaced Farnum, Kevin Zeese, ran the organization for four years. A defense attorney—and still NORML's legal counsel-Zeese was a key player in the California Against Marijuana Planting (CAMP) suits; he continued the medical marijuana suits, was involved in the end of the paraquat issues, and challenged the military's right to urine test all personnel. Although the last suit lost, it brought public awareness to the issue, and forced the military to tighten up its testing policies. Under Zeese, the NORMLIZER columns in HIGH TIMES started and the idea for NORML's marijuana magazine, Common Sense for America, was hatched. NORML was evolving from a lobby to an educational organization.

A VISIT TO THE NORML OFFICE

I wanted to meet the guys currently running **NORML**, to see what they were up to, and check the state of the reform movement. So in mid-December I made my way to their office in Washington, D.C. Enroute I got a little apprehensive, afraid they might be burnouts living the good life at the expense of indoor growers; it wasn't so.

I was met at the office door by a clear-eyed, clean-cut 25-year-old who looked like he'd be more at home in a church meeting than working in the bowels of a pro-drug battle. He introduced himself as Doug McVay, NORML's newest staff member, and took me on a tour of the office: five cramped rooms filled with erector-set bookcases and file cabinets, all crammed with medical journals, government reports, and legal compendiums. The closest thing to an amenity was an old Mr. Coffee machine.

Being the new man meant being the first one in: Jeff Edwards and Jon Gettman would arrive later. McVay poured coffee and told me how he managed to hook up with **NORML**.

"That's complicated," he laughed. Seems he'd worked for NORML as a volunteer in college, then gone out to work with the Oregon Marijuana Initiative (OMI), met Jon while with them, and when an opening cropped up with the National NORML, he moved to Washington.

The phone interrupted us: a street minister had been busted with a joint and needed legal advice. McVay gave him the name of one of NORML's lawyers and wished him luck.

"You say the guy got caught for a joint?" I said. "Nobody hassles anybody for a joint anymore.

"You would be surprised, Mr. Gorman.

We get it all the time.'

The phone rang again: this time it was an Ohio radio station asking Gettman to do a short interview at noon. Doug said he'd see what he could do.

Just then the office door flew open and a thin, blond-haired, slightly frantic 30-year-old came in, smoking a cigarette. I thought it might be Gettman. He came over and shook my hand.

"Peter Gorman, right? Jeff Edwards, NORML's business manager. Glad to meet you." He spoke quickly; while McVay was quiet and articulate, Edwards had the style of a front man. "Listen, I've got to prepare a package for Senator Alan Cranston's office and get it right over to his staff. Anything you want, just ask."

And then he disappeared into an office. I poured another cup of coffee while McVay took more calls. There were requests for medical and legal advice. for general information, for information on how to volunteer for NORML. The phone probably rang 20 times the first hour I was there, and McVay was so smooth that no one on the other end could possibly have guessed how minimally-staffed, overcrowded, and generally chaotic the office really was.

When Gettman finally did arrive there was no mistaking him: he was ruggedlooking, wore a jacket and tie with jeans, and had an air of absolute confidence. He had brown hair and the dispassionate eyes of someone who knows exactly how far he wants to go, and how much effort he's going to need to get there. He muttered something about the traffic, sized me up from the doorway, then entered the room.

"Jon Gettman. How are you? Grab an ashtray and come into my office where we can talk.'

I followed him into his office, a lowceilinged room crowded with two desks and an easy chair, more bookcases and two computer terminals. Between answering morning messages he told me the story of his first connection with NORML. It seems he'd been working at a paraphernalia store when Stroup's cocaine brouhaha broke. In the aftermath of that incident, he sent Stroup the store's fanciest inlaid coke straw with a note: "Keith: Next time you

get caught in a scandal of national proportions, do it with style.

'Later, when we met, Keith thanked me for it. He said it was one of the few bright spots of an otherwise dismal month.'

It wasn't until a few years later that he became a NORML volunteer. He was attending college at the time. "Well, I had time on my hands and I felt that having sold rolling papers and pipes for eight years at the head shop, it was time I started doing something for the smokers rather than just making money off them."

From volunteer he became bookkeeper, then business manager. then assistant director under Kevin Zeese, and finally, when Zeese gave up the post, national director.

His story was interrupted by a call from Channel 9 in New York. The station wanted to know if Gettman or a promarijuana lawyer would be willing to appear as a guest on the The Morton Downey Show. Gettman told them to call back. "I'm not sure about the Downey show. He always tries to get his guests into a shouting match. That may not be the right image for us."

Since Gettman arrived at NORML, membership has grown each quarter; the magazine he and Zeese cooked up. Common Sense for America, has become a reality; and his plan to turn NORML into an educational organization rather than a political action or lobbying group has taken effect. "What we've gotta do is fight the ignorance and hysteria surrounding marijuana, and to do that we've got to educate," he said. I assured him I was essentially on the same side of the argument.

The thing is this: the public didn't care about the marijuana issue when Reagan became president. When he leaves they're going to care about it a great deal. His advisors are saying 'more and more arrests!' and two weeks later they're saying, 'Oh, Ginsburg used it but that was just a youthful indiscretion.' A lot of Reagan's policies have been discredited."

Just before lunch, Gettman did the radio show. He was clear on his positions, intelligent, and to the point. Listening to him talk about marijuana reform it was difficult to imagine that it's still a controversial issue.

Well it is," he said when I remarked on it. "Rational argument never results in societal change. Politicians don't lead, they follow. If I can demonstrate widespread support for marijuana reform, it'll happen. The system will take care of itself. So that's my first order of business. Rally the troops. We've got to fight for our rights.

When I left the offices late in the day, I was impressed. It's a lot of work for three guys to try to handle. But more than just NORML, I was impressed with the issue. Living in a decrim state, it's easy to forget. Until I think about urinetesting and invasion of privacy, and the fact that growing pot in almost every state in the union is a Class A felony punishable by a forfeiture of property and life imprisonment. Not many people spend their lives in jail for pot anymore, but they can. And lots of people who aren't going to jail are losing their jobs or not getting jobs, or living with a little more fear than they ought to live with.

The Reagan administration has gone all out to bring back the 'Killer Weed' mentality that Anslinger created when he sought—and succeeded—in making marijuana illegal in 1937. Our hardfought victories of the '60s and '70s are terribly undermined by the big brother urine-testing of the '80s. As unfathomable as it might seem, there were 361,000 marijuana arrests last year.

There are stirrings which indicate a new wave of reform could begin. In Oregon, OMI is collecting signatures to get on the ballot. There's a possibility marijuana could be legal there by 1989. In Arkansas they're in the same boat, while in Idaho, Minnesota, and Michigan they're getting close to being given ballot space. When one state falls, others will follow.

But don't wait for the politicians to do something, because they won't. HIGH TIMES called every major candidate, and not one had a clear-cut, intelligent policy or program to deal with the marijuana issue. The politicians will continue to side-step this issue for as long as possible. Our only alternative is to organize and do it ourselves.

THE OMI INITIATIVE

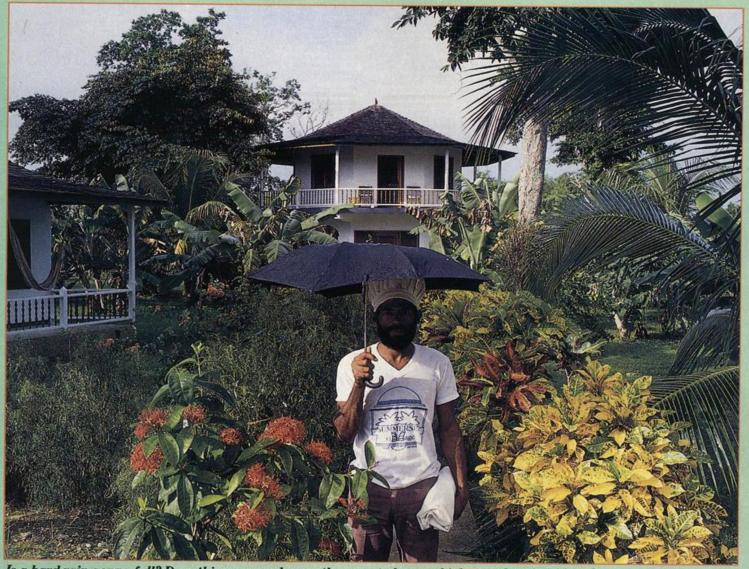
The OMI Initiative calls for the complete legalization of up to 3 plants and 1/4 lb of dried marijuana. Possession of more than 3 plants would remain a Class A felony, punishable by forfeiture of property and life imprisonment.

Each individual who wants to grow or possess marijuana in Oregon-limited to individuals 21 and over-would apply for a permit. Applications would be made at the Department of Health at a cost of \$50.00 per year and would be anonymous. Monies collected would go toward establishing Drug Rehabilitation Centers and Drug Education Programs in the state. Potential revenue for these programs during the first years would reach 5 to 15 million dollars.

The OMI needs support. For financial donations or information contact

2535 S.E. Belmont Portland, Oregon 97214

OMI P.O. Box 3698 Portland, Oregon 97207 or call (503) 239-5134



Is a hard rain gonna fall? Does this man need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows?

Story by John Holmstrom

Photos by Andre Grossmann

NO PROBLEM?

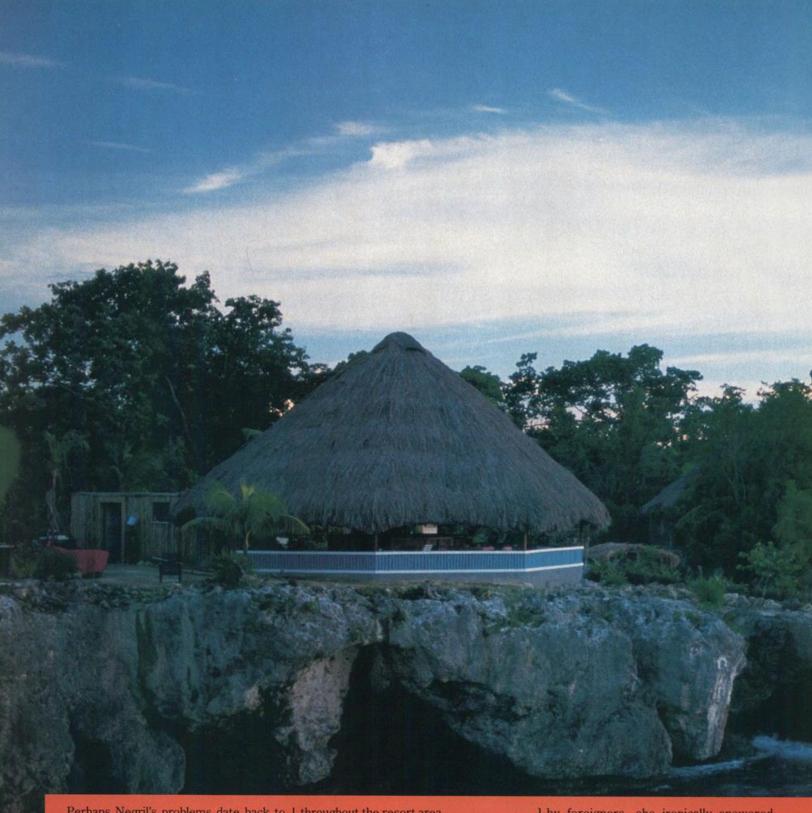
No Problem is the unofficial motto of Negril, Jamaica. No Problem is the answer to all problems. Nothing is a problem when you come to Negril. Everything is laid out for visitors to have a hassle-free, fun vacation. Anything goes. Want ganja? No Problem. A woman? No Problem. Want to get totally spaced out, take off your clothes, rub coconut oil all over your body, and babble about the mysteries of the universe? No Problem.

However, No Problem is no solution for the two big problems plaguing the village cocaine, and U.S. helicopter firebombings of local ganja fields. Although the political climate is not volatile enough to call Jamaica the next Haiti, it's hard to think of many ways to screw things up any worse.

Negril's two bummers can be traced to its lifeblood—tourism, and its deserved rep as the Alternative Tourism haven of the western hemisphere. After its discovery by hippies in the early '70s, the small, peaceful fishing village of Negril was quickly transformed into Sex 'n' Drugs 'n' Reggae Music Central. The '60s-style stoned-out hippies, with their reverence for nature and pot, were followed a few years later by their '70s-style stoned-out equivalents. That introduced the disco lifestyle to the area,

which brought down cocaine, gangsters, smugglers, and, last but least, yuppies. Negril had become The Hippest Place In The World To Get High.

By the 1980s, Reagan's War On Drugs had made Negril a prime target. When the U.S. helicopters arrived and began their raids on Jamaican pot fields, they took special aim at Party Central. At the same time the cocaine trade was increased for the demanding visitors to get their thrills. As the '80s come to an end, what was originally a haven for pot smokers and hippies is full of cokeheads and yuppies.

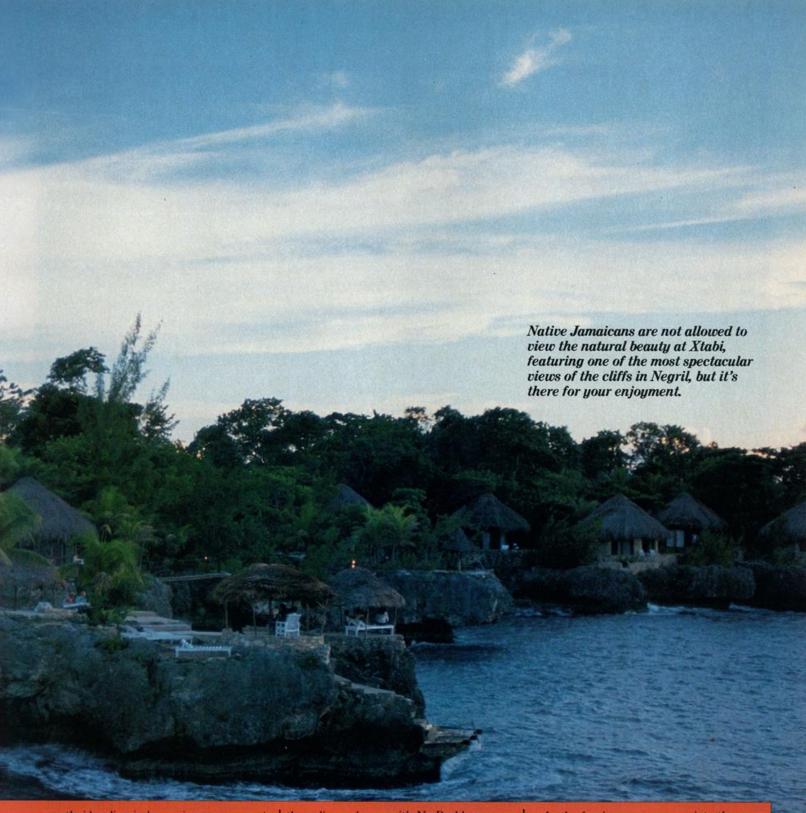


Perhaps Negril's problems date back to when the resort area Hedonism II was built. Thousands of wild and crazy tourists looking for a real blast could come to Jamaica and get their uninhibited thrills as easy as they could buy a fast-food burger. Package tours give thrill-seeking, budget-minded young professionals all the alcoholic beverage they can consume and all the Jamaican beach they can handle for a modest sum. For the predominantly white tourists' safety and peace of mind, native islanders are kept off the premises. Hedonism pioneered this policy of tourist apartheid, which has spread

throughout the resort area.

Most of the natives view the unwritten law as No Problem. In fact, they're amused by the stories that come out of Hedonism, their local zoo (like the one about the mirrored bedrooms under construction there). Since the hordes of tourists have brought down lots of cash, Jamaicans view them as their ticket to the good life. As one islander put it, "If I owned a restaurant or a resort, I would certainly want to be able to say who was or wasn't allowed on my property." When I then asked how many of these local businesses catering to tourists are owned by foreigners, she ironically answered, "About 90 percent."

It's impossible to say that the local cocaine problem is directly related to the oppressive local rules and regulations that restrict the islanders' freedom. For whatever reasons, the real drug problemcoke-is getting worse and worse. Where a few years ago some of the local Rastas were experimenting with coke, our recent visit saw many of the same guys who had No Problem a few years ago now destitute, in jail, or dead. With the emergence of a serious drug problem, the strictly-enforced



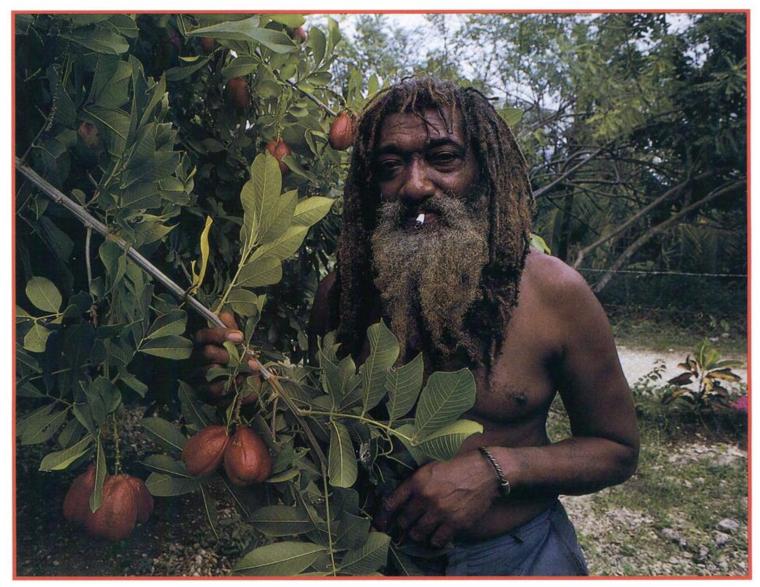
apartheid policy is becoming necessary to protect Negril's tourism industry from local crackheads. A new and improved jail is now under construction, and it's not being built to keep drunken tourists in.

There are separate rules for white tourists and black natives. If tourists begin to get ripped off or hassled too much, it would be bad for business, so Negril must keep the local troublemakers away from situations hazardous to tourists' health. If locals get ripped off, it's No Problem. If tourists get out of hand and act crazy, it's No Problem. If a local ragamuffin gets out of hand, well...

the police make sure it's No Problem.

The policy of apartheid is mostly used at the more expensive tourist haunts to keep the ruder ragamuffins off the premises and make sure there are No Problems, the way street bums are kept out of New York's finer restaurants. Since many Rastas either can't afford to eat at the finer places or prefer not to waste their money in expensive tourist traps, it's No Problem. They carry out their Rambo business, like selling women or drugs to tourists, outside the premises. But they don't like the racist policy at all.

As the foreign money pours into the area and construction projects bring muchneeded jobs into the area, Negril is slowly mutating into a tropical Times Square, a mini-urban ghetto, complete with pimps, prostitutes, petty hustlers, drug dealers, and street people. It's now easier to score coke than pot in Negril. Although every local we spoke with professed to despise the drug, and living examples of the destructive power of the White Bitch could be seen everywhere, tourists still want it—and what the tourists want, the tourists get. During continued on page 41



Above: Everyone knows Maurice Lynch as Red, the first man to grow his hair into dreads and bring Rastafarian culture to Negril. At right: Red has fourteen children and fourteen wives. Here, he poses with the members of his immediate family that live with him.

Maurice "Red" Lynch, the first Rastafarian in Negril:

"I used to be a professional dancer. I used to live in Kingston for years, and did a lot of dancing on the stage. I knew Bob Marley back then when he was a young singer. I used to win a lot of first prizes for rock'n'roll music. I didn't like Jamaican music. It was more like the rhumba, and the younger people didn't like that. So when the rock'n'roll came, oh man! It hit Jamaica! The jammin'

and movin'-you know.

"I traveled in the States a couple times. I did three or four years in the United States Marines. I was stationed in Guantanamo Bay. I was a barber a little after the revolution.

"I was born here, and I grew up in Kingston, but I always liked the country life and the country feelings. So, after I traveled I came back here, which was around 1970. That was the same year that the hippies started coming here. We used to wake up and see them sleeping all over the rocks. So we got together with the hippies and shared our herb. We used to smoke and get high together, and you know that spiritual feelings you get when you smoke the ganja, that brought us together. I was sick at the time. I had an ulcerous stomach, and hemorrhoids, and then started living the natural life. The natural foods started in my system, so I got right into the Rasta culture, you know. And I felt better. Getting into

those natural foods—that's what made me feel so good. Of all the things about this life, that's what means everything to me. What I've learned from the natural foods and the hippies, you know. I learned about sprouts and things. In Jamaica we didn't know anything about sprouts.

"UFOs—yes, yes, yes. Several times here. I and my son Mark. Well, we had one of the most strangest experiences up there. One night, this thing appears like a star. And it always shines. It's a kind of red, green, and gold light all the times. One night about two o'clock, I and my son Mark, we were watching this light, and I said, 'Look at that. I believe it's a star.' And then I said, 'But I've never seen a star change that color.' Meanwhile, while we were talking, we saw another one coming and it opens up and the other one went right in the small light, traveled and came and went right in this other big one and it closes. Both of us saw that. You could ask him." .





Ian Masters, publisher of Sports And Arts magazine:

"They have started this massive drive to send personnel and equipment to various countries who they know are totally dependent on American aid, like Jamaica. You can see helicopters flying all over the place, and I have seen American personnel in the copters. Although our government says there are no American personnel, we have all seen them. I've been told by people that when they land, they have their standard .45 Army issue strapped to their hips. In Jamaica they don't carry standard .45s. I think it's violating our constitution. Whatever they're trying to achieve, it's wrong.

"The majority of Jamaicans say, 'Get rid of the cocaine and the cocaine barons.' Marijuana is a natural thing, you know. Cocaine is really destroying a lot of Jamaicans. A lot. It has reached a point where even in the schools, children are snorting and freebasing and shit like that. When they want more, they haven't got the money to buy it, so hence the crime link. They go and steal, kill. They have not reached the proportions of, say, New York, and I hope to God that it doesn't reach that proportion. So this is why people are saving 'Let's kill the cocaine trade NOW.".

NO PROBLEM?

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the busy season, from December to April, when Negril nightlife is going full blast, hearty partiers need their coke to stay wide awake so they can get as drunk and stoned as possible, and enjoy all the fun.

Although the tourists are the primary market for the white powder and you would figure that the black market would take care of the traffic control, local Rastas swear the CIA is dropping it on the island in an effort to destroy their culture. It's as hard to argue against that possibility as it is to believe it. The heaviest street rumor going around while we visited Negril was that Peter Tosh was shot by a man who took a gun rap for him fifteen years before, and when he came to collect, Tosh wouldn't pay the money originally promised in the deal. Most Rastafarians believe the government was behind the Peter Tosh murder, as part of the same vicious plot against their culture as the cocaine trade. Whether the Peter Tosh murder was a government plot, random violence, or Rambo business gone sour, what you can't argue with is that Tosh's murder, the coke, and the helicopters are ruining Rastafarian culture, replacing it with the same boring death culture that's stalking America.

Negril Rastas believe the helicopters are bombing the ganja plantations to promote the cocaine trade. When you consider the sacred reverence they give to their herb, the helicopters might as well firebomb churches. To many Jamaicans outside the Rasta culture as well, the warfare against Jamaica's ganja is as horrible a military manuever as could be imagined. Perhaps the one group most terrified of the helicopters are those most dependent on the tourism business, especially the rich foreigners. They worry that if the campaign continues, their business will suffer.

It's important to keep in mind that not everyone in Negril, or on the island of Jamaica, likes reggae music and supports the Rastafarian culture. The Rastas represent the same minority counterculture as hippies in the '60s. Most locals prefer American music, and not everyone in Jamaica smokes pot. The majority of Jamaicans appear to desire what middle class Americans have-the color TV with VCR, a two-car garage with an automatic door opener, microwaved ding-dongs, central heating and plumbing, and two weeks vacation to spend in Negril. Many Jamaicans are proud of the Burger King and Kentucky Fried Chicken franchises on the island. However, unlike that other country in love with U.S. culture, Jamaica is so technologically backward that there is no Xerox machine in all of Negril.

Very few locals expressed support for the helicopters' impossible mission to wipe out the island's, and the world's, drug problem, but believe it or not, they are there. These locals, like many Americans, figure that

drugs are a serious problem, that drastic action has to be taken against them, and the only people getting hurt in the aerial raids are people involved in illegal activity. According to the apologists, the helicopters are only spraying the plants, or uprooting the plants with the 'copters' propellers. They don't believe the accounts of napalm being used against the people in the hills.

The spraying, burning, and fire-bombing has been going on for a long time now. When a published report claimed political pressure was put on Jamaican Prime Minister Seaga by the Reagan administration to spray paraquat a few years ago, the swamp areas near Negril and Black River were named as prime targets in the War On Drugs. American police experts estimated in the early '80s that ten percent of the U.S. pot supply came from Jamaica, and the U.S. State Department identified Jamaica as the thirdlargest source of marijuana. A Jamaican official was quoted in 1985 as saying that U.S. officials "feel our efforts are not as strong as they could be. Normally we go in and slash and burn." Although the efforts have obviously been stepped up, it's too little too late. The American indoor-growing revolution has made imported Jamaican pot less in demand. The bombing of Jamaican fields comes about twenty years too late to put a dent in American marijuana use. What hasn't changed is Jamaica's strategic position as an ideal transit point for Colombian cocaine. Nothing is being done to stop the cocaine in Jamaica, however.

So, the aerial warfare goes on and on, wiping out food crops along with the subsistence farmers' pot crops. And the Jamaican macijuana farmers, most of whom are Rastafarian, watch in helpless horror as their sacred plants go up in smoke. The price of ganja is going up as the shortage continues, but very few locals involved in the ganja business are in a position to profit from the inflated prices.

The only way for the islanders to get back at the 'copters would be the use of small arms or rocket-launchers, and there is much talk about how to accomplish that next step. But the islanders are too poverty-stricken to fight back with expensive technology like rocket-launchers, and although Cuba is only 90 miles away, they haven't started giving them away... yet. Besides, escalating the war is the last thing Jamaicans want. They know that would hurt the tourism business, and Jamaica lost a lot of money a few years ago when political unrest scared tourists away.

Jamaicans want No Problems. They just want to be left alone. They want things the way they were—the farmers grow the ganja, the hustlers sell it to the tourists, and the tourists have a good time. But as long as no action is taken by those of us in the States to stop the bombing of Jamaican ganja fields, the firebombing will continue. And as long as American tourists want cocaine, there will be two big problems in the land of No Problem. •



Above: The interior of Creative World Records.

Danny Reynolds, Creative World Records:

"If you notice, a lot of reggae groups are being killed or being shot. You know, it's mainly because reggae's the way of our people to express themselves. And talk about the things in Jamaica they don't like. There's a lot of people who would like to see reggae go down.

"But I don't think they can kill reggae. They can't stop it. People can get killed but there are many more that will come that will say the same thing that Peter would say. Peter Tosh... in his music, in his action, in his way of life, was very political. I mean, he's not the kind of guy who will stand there and see 1,000 police destroying a population of people just because

of a little ganja. He'd say, 'Legalize it and let it be free.' Politicians don't like people like that. They'll destroy him for that.

"They all come on and try to destroy the crops, destroy the feeling. Well, the people are hungry. This is their way of life for the people. So if the government is trying to eradicate ganja and Peter Tosh is there saying it should be legalized—they'll try to kill him. So that's it. We have to keep going. Reggae's not dying. It can never die.

"If you flog a child, he'll go in the corner and cry for a while. But tomorrow he'll go right to that same thing he was doing. Because that's a part of him. Reggae's the heartbeat of the people. That cannot be killed. It cannot be destroyed."

Michael Frazer, Rastafarian:

"Listen to this. I've been in the hills, mon, and seen people running with their babies from fuckin' Reagan's helicopters down here, dropping those fuckin' bombs, thrown by Americans. And people in their houses-most Jamaicans who have a field don't live in a house. They live in a hut. So even if it's a little house, it looks like a hut. These guys don't care whatever it fucking is. They burn it up. They don't expect Jamaicans to live in shit like that. So they're burning it up thinking there's ganja in it. And then burn up a lot of fuckin' people! Yeah! They drop a fucking grenade on it!

"At least your government actually allow us to make it [Negril] an ideal vacation spot. Because we continue to hustle you people with bullshit like ganja. But your country, people get high on all kinds of shit, even more than us. We think Americans smoke far more pot than Jamaicans smoke. We only are trying to be so generous to have it for them.

"If you're going to come down here, and you're not buying a little ganja, there's this struggling crowd of people who're going to hustle your ass off, mon. They're going to find some way to really—if it's Reagan himself, they'll jack his pants off. I'm telling you. If Reagan comes down here with Nancy, he probably loses Nancy.

"Yeah, I mean, I've seen, right here in my own community, my own town, it's like I've seen young guys like



Michael Frazer shows off his prized possession, a gold Rolex watch.

me. These guys know coke—within six years, and kill themselves already. And I've seen people smoking ganja since many years before I was born, and they're still alive, and healthy and fit. And their head's together. I never heard of ganja killing anyone.

"So they won't legalize ganja. The head of the government don't like it. So right now, they're trying to fuck us all up. Like we might jump in the fucking ocean and commit suicide. And then they think that they have it all made. We know that they wanted Peter Tosh. We know that long time. We know guys who said he was wanted dead or alive... Because they thought he was going to gain power for the people. Not

through a political source. Because music is more powerful than any political source in the universe. The only thing to us is more profound than the music right now is the herb. Because the herb to us right now is our inspiration. For release, and free our mind of this mental slavery.

"But before we do so, they decide to fuck us up. And the sharpest way to do it is cocaine. It's easy. You could get a little girl into doing it. You could get a little fucking kid into doing it. I have my ten-year-old son, mon. He's the only thing I have. You know I have to say, 'Don't fucking ever touch it.' Because I grow ganja, he grows ganja. And learns that he doesn't ever need it. The only thing I have to say is, don't. Don't."



Although there are plenty of native crafts, t-shirts, pot, food, and reggae records for sale everywhere, some of the "necessities of life" are unavailable. These things make good tips for maids, guides or whomever. If you want to have a hassle-free vacation while in Jamaica, don't forget the...

1. Rolling papers

Pot is plentiful, but rolling papers are not.

- 2. Cigarettes/Cigarette lighters
- Small, waterproof containers
- Insect repellent
- Blank audio tape cassettes

Even customs agents were asking for them.

6. Boom box

But keep an eye on it.

7. Suitcases with locks

Bicycle

The best way to get around. If you're planning a short stay, rent a motor scooter.

9. Playing cards

Bring several decks. They wear out fast.

Medical supplies

11. Jamaican and American cash

Carry small bills for tips and small purchases. American \$20s, \$50s, and \$100s are in big demand. The black market exchange rate, was like seven to one—so for a \$100 bill, you get 700 J.

12.A portable fan/hair dryer

13. Towels

14. A flashlight

Sunscreen

16. Cosmetics

"They're too old down here," complained one woman.

17. Bathing suit

Bring snorkeling gear, too.

18. Trade goods

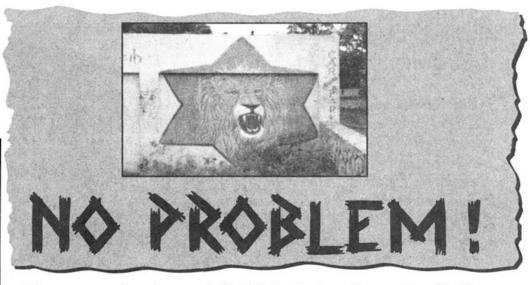
Some things are difficult to buy down there, like heavy rainboots, knives, raincoats, and umbrellas. Bring enough gold chains and you can buy the island. Ditto Rolex watches and cheap walkmans.

19. Heavy boots

If you're going to tour the country, the ground can be very rocky.

20. Condoms

More heavy boots.



Whatever anger Jamaican people feel about the helicopters or cocaine is directed at Seaga and Reagan. Other than the helicopters, coke, and yuppie scum, it's strictly No Problem in Negril. The helicopters make it difficult for farmers to grow enough to export overseas, but there is plenty for tourists. (Besides, any area that advertises Mrs. Brown's Mushroom Tea and Jenny's "Special" Cakes as "Specialty Items" in its tourism literature has to be at the top of the HIGH TIMES' list of places to visit!)

They know how to treat visitors here—you'll feel like a king! If you're looking for the 'round-the-clock party and the nightlife, the tourist season is the time to visit—from December to April. That's when there are lots of parties, bare-breasted beach bunnies, crowds of people everywhere, live reggae music all over, and a party atmosphere second to none. That's Negril: Sex 'N' Drugs 'N' Reggae Music Central. However, if you're looking for Negril:Pot-Smokers' Paradise, be daring! Visit during the off-season.

There are drawbacks to visiting Negril in the off-season. Like any tourist town, the energy level drops off. In Negril, that mostly means the nightlife slows down. Some clubs and restaurants close up completely. For some people, that's just fine. One couple we met were having a great time on their honeymoon. The island is never more romantic than when two people have it almost to themselves.

Enough places stay open to keep you from getting bored, and there are good reasons to go during the off-seasons. Some of the seedier hustlers disappear when the crowds do. Prices for everything from pot to crafts are lower, and there are no long lines for restaurants. And at times, it feels as if the entire

island is there for your benefit. It's as peaceful and relaxing as you could ever wish a vacation to be.

As far as copping a buzz goes, don't worry—there are so many local dealers, getting high is the last thing to worry about in Negril.

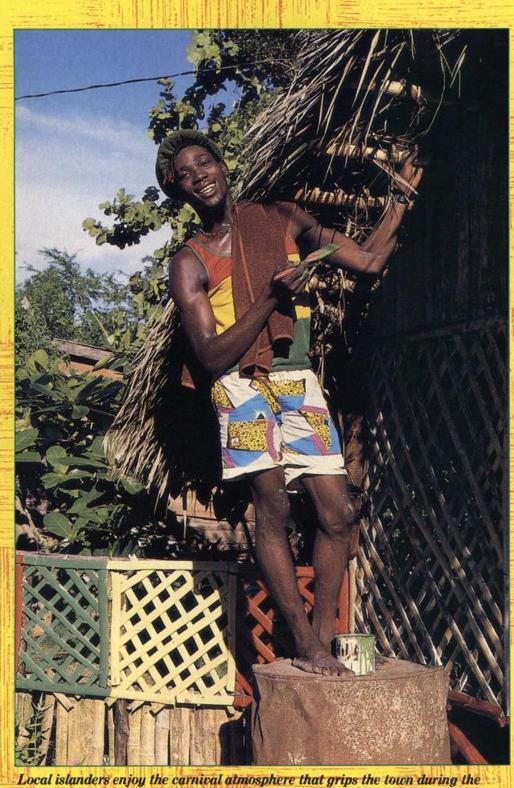
The market in the center of town, just off the roundabout, can be a lot of fun to visit, but it's also the biggest hustle around. Check it out, then comparison shop at the small shops on the highway cliffside. We found that the prices were better, and that the shop-owners were nice, friendly people.

One of the best reasons to go in the offseason is to take advantage of the uncrowded beaches. So wake up early, grab your snorkeling gear, and hit those coral reefs! If your local resort can't fill your scuba/snorkel needs, try Aquasports or the Negril Scuba Center at the Negril Beach Club.

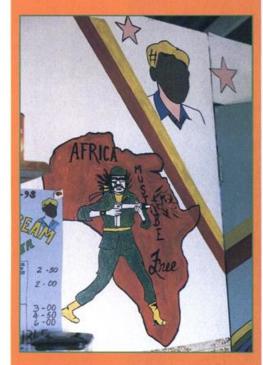
You have to be out of your mind not to check out the local music scene. Visit Errol's Cassettes not far from the center of town, or Creative World Records near cliffside. Reggae singles are so cheap, picking up a few dozen will be No Problem! If you're not sure which ones to buy, just pick up the top ten—you can't go wrong.

The thing you won't do in Negril is run out of things to do. While we stayed at Summerset Village, there were horseback-riding trips, white water rafting expeditions, bus tours to the waterfalls, and more. They were building an entertainment center with a pool table, Ping-Pong, video games, and a TV room with satellite TV. But our favorite pastime was lying around in the sun and doing nothing, while getting hassled by no one.

Yeah, it was a tough assignment covering the Negril beat, but someone had to do it. ●

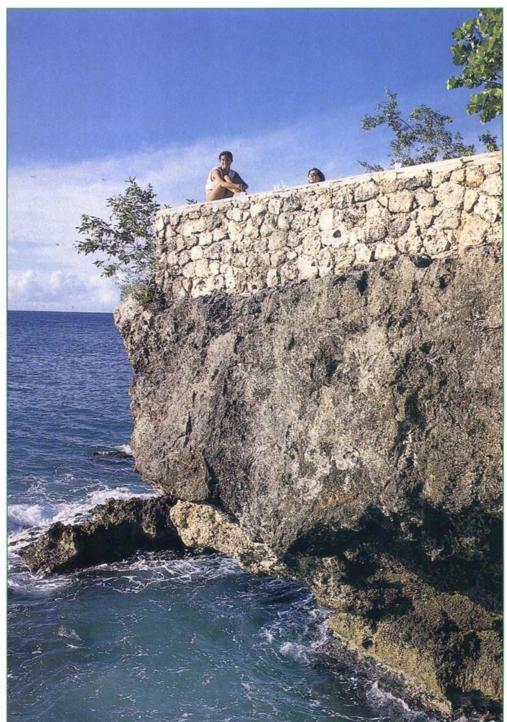


WHYARCHIE HAS TO GO TO AFRICA



While hanging out at
Creative World Records, we
couldn't help but notice the
many cartoon images painted
on the side of the store. Aside
from pictures of Whoopi
Goldberg hanging next to Bob
Marley, Veronica go-go
dancing, and advertisements
for magic mushroom tea, the
strangest image was one of
Archie in Africa. I asked
Danny Reynolds about it.

"What that picture means is that someday, Archie will find himself in Africa. And when he gets there, it will be okay. Archie will be allowed to go. But he has to go. Maybe next year, maybe in ten years, but some day, he's goin' to find himself in Africa. So that picture means—even Archie has to go to Africa."





A woman was standing in a crowded bus holding onto the rail when a Rasta man standing close by detected an odourocious smell and found it was coming from her arm. He shook his locks as if he were about to faint. When he was recov-

ered he asked, "Dawta, wha kine a perfume yuh use?" She answered in a very chirpy voice, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." The dread replied, "Den dawta, dem neva tell you sey some a di dwarf dem dead?"

Westfes Magazine



ALFRED'S

Hidden away on the beach between the center of town and Hedonism.

The crepes and omelettes are outasite. Also a good place to check out the topless beach action.



THE MARINER'S INN

At cliffside, on the opposite side of Negril from the beaches.

On the expensive side, but worth it. Beautiful view of the ocean, great fish dishes.



SERIOUS CHICKEN

Between Ocean Edge and Drumvill Cove.

Highly recommended wood chicken barbeque—spicy!



PEE WEE'S

The best place to meet locals, who are allowed to hang out here. If you've got the guts, they've got the deadly rum punch—so good there's a two-per-customer limit!





The one thing in Negril that's better than the smoke is the food. So don't forget to eat something while you're down there—and we don't mean burgers!

PARADISE YARD

Just off the market in the center. The best! The Rasta Pasta is out of this world!





DESI DREADS

Another locals' hangout. Ital food, fun atmosphere. Try everything on the menu.



XTABI

Cliffside, between the center of town and Summerset.

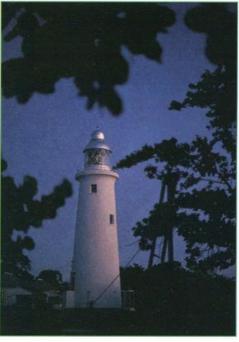
Good food, great view, beautiful cliffs, but yuppies preferred.



KAISER'S CAFE

Meet the people! The best breakfast in Negril with all the java you can drink at a reasonable price. Crafts and t-shirts available as well as anything else you might want...a must see.





SUMMERSET RESTAURANT

Cliffside, just across from Mariner's Inn.

Jamaican food for the American taste. The best food can be found on the chef's special Thursday night buffets.



WHARF CLUB

Right near the center of town. One of the top places. Very friendly staff.



RICK'S CAFE

Near the Lighthouse.

Expensive prices for so-so food, but the sunset is unbelievable, the bar is happening, and it's one of the most popular places for meeting people.

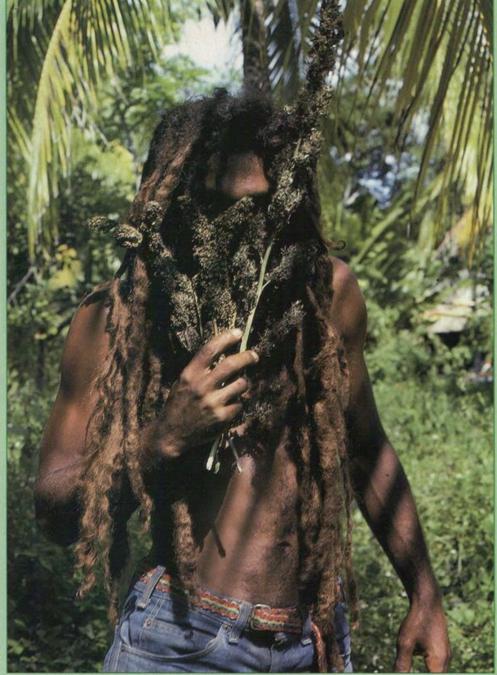


FISHERMAN'S WHARF

Past Alfred's beach side toward Mo-Bay.

Good food for old-time prices, but look out for the parking lot hustlers.





Pot grows wild all over Jamaica, but don't get caught with it at the wrong time, or in the wrong place. You'll pay some heavy dues.



The story you are about to read happened for one of these reasons—a person was caught by Jamaican police bringing marijuana in or out of the country, buying it on the streets, or carrying it in a car. The victim, who wishes to remain anonymous, only had four grams—two joints. Once the police booked him, he was called up before a judge, given a court date, handcuffed, and thrown in jail.

"While I was there I saw things I couldn't

believe. We were in a 4' x 8' room with a ten-foot ceiling. One little 2' x 4' window at the top. Very little air, no light.

"They threw me in with all blacks—Africans, Nicaraguans, Brazilians. When the guards pushed me in, they all went 'White Man! White Man!' I was the only white man in there. All of a sudden I could feel people touching me all over—checking to see if I had a wallet, to see if I had any money. Right away I started pushing them away. I hit one

guy in the chest with my fist and knocked him up against the wall—I wasn't going to take anything because I knew if I took this stuff I was up for a lot more.

"A lot of guys were cut up. It was a very common thing down there. Scars on their face, on their necks, on their heads. I saw guys get beat-up, and I saw 'em get stabbed. The guards would let them bleed on the floor and then just hosed it down. The guards carry, like, baseball bats. I saw little kids with stitches on their foreheads, and on the crown of their heads where they'd been hit with sticks. It was deplorable. There were little twelve-year-old kids in there because they were riding the bus and didn't have the money to pay the fare.

"The lunches weren't fit for animals. Chicken backs and rice every day. For dinner it was chicken necks and rice. And it was a mad panic to eat for these guys.

"I'd say there were eighty-five people in this cell block, in about ten rooms. With big iron doors with bars on them, with quarter-inch holes drilled in through for air. A dungeon. And they put us in there for eighteen hours a day. There were four or five of us at a time in these little rooms. Nothing but two hard benches in it. Sometimes they stuck five of us in there. You'd have to sleep on the floor, with cockroaches all over the place. These guys peed on the floor, and the toilets were overflowing with human waste.

"I can't describe what they put people through. The urine smell. The human waste in the corners that were never cleaned. Cockroaches an inch and a half long—never seen anything like 'em. I'd stay awake at night with one of my shoes to kill them. I'd say I killed a thousand. There were millions, crawling up on the walls... I slept on the concrete floor 'cause I couldn't deal with the heat. If I slept an hour and a half every night I was lucky. The jail cells were 120 degrees—no air.

"As my time progressed in there, I learned the people you can bribe. You get to bribe some of the cops in there, and they'll let you out a couple of hours a night. But you gotta pay 'em heavy. Like twenty bucks to let you out for a little bit. They'll give you a beer or two because they're totally wasted on the twenty bucks you give 'em.

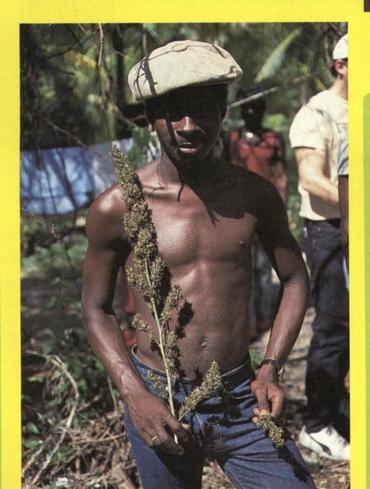
"It's deplorable. There's no justice. The lawyers lie to you, the judges lie to you—they make it a joke if you're an American down there. I spent a small fortune down there. And I'm not done yet. I'm sure this ordeal has cost me a good five or six thousand dollars. I bribed so many people. It was all politics. They wanted me to spend my money in the jail, and bribe people—they're all into bribery down there. I realize I broke the law. But two joints! There are murderers, dope pushers, heroin users, cocaine users, and they're all in the same category down there.

"Don't take anything with you, don't buy anything while you're down there. If you do, you're at your own risk."

WESTMORELAND TASTE TEST

THREE LOCAL INDICA HYBRIDS





You can see the obvious Skunk #1 dominance in appearance. It also went for the taste. Sold as indica, I felt it as a clear, energetic, sativa high.

A very strong "thick blue smoke" type of indica. Minty taste and narcotic effect made this a full, lusty taste.

This skinny, squashed bud was the best!
Sparkling with its sugar coating of amber, glandular trichomes, it was a superior, calming *indica*.
(see inset)

Overleaf: A spectacular "Blue Vein" and Skunk #1 hybrid grown within an hour's drive of Negril. Photography by Andre Grossmann, floral arrangement by Jennifer Jackson.

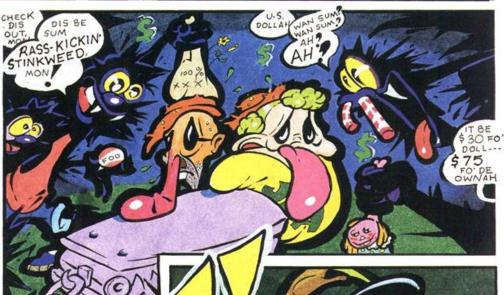
Amazing! Even in Jamaica, Skunk #1 seeds yield a highly prized "cotton balls" kola.







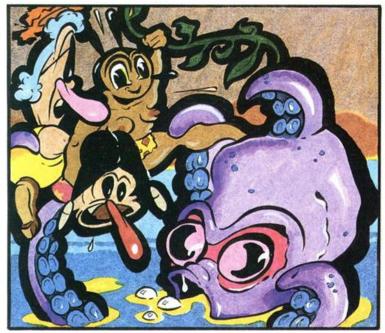


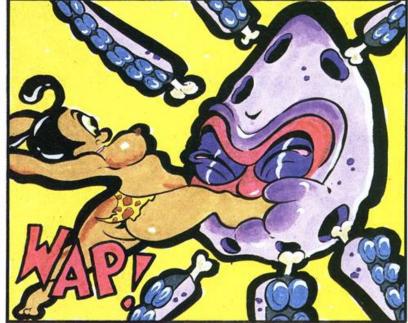




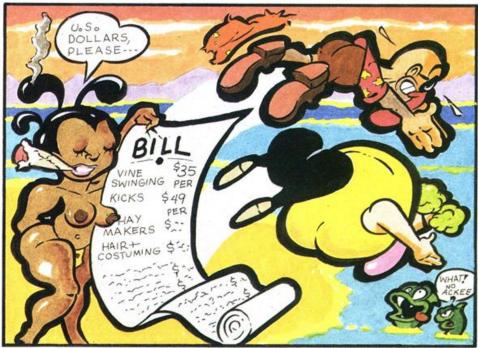








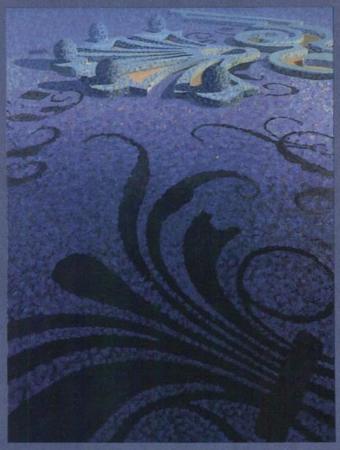




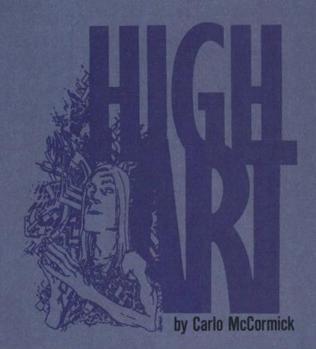
© 1987 KNIGHT.



Untitled, gouache on museum board, 4 1/2" x 6 1/2", 1986.



Untitled, oil on canvas, 50" x 72", 1987.



Brian Spaeth

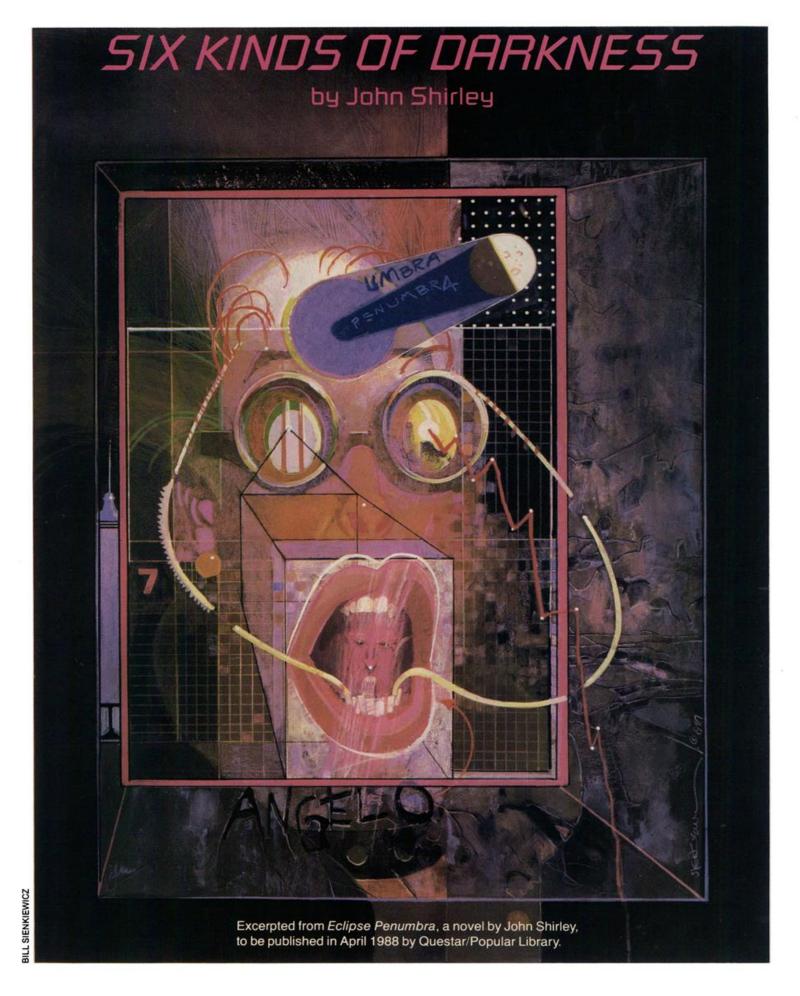
Following our senses on twisting and twirling paths and rills, we are in the infinite, meandering gardens of the psychedelic sublime. Brian Spaeth is the gardener with a paintbrush, the caretaker-guardian of this visionary landscape. He builds his pastoral playground in a high place, floating just above mind, memory, and mythology-where anything can grow full and ripe in the rich soils of the expansive imagination. Spaeth takes his seeds from the planned gardens of England that spanned the Roccoco and Romantic movements of the 18th century, including such wondrous contrivances as Prior Park, Twickenham, Strawberry Hill, and Kew Gardens. First Spaeth builds miniature models of his charmingly rambling grounds, constructing three-dimensionally the intricate patterns in which harmony and order meet passion and irregularity on the grand scheme of nature's cosmic design. These artificial estates are the blueprint for the artist's deeper explorations. Into this swirling organic puzzlethis trippy maze of hedgerows—Spaeth loses himself, painting confused, dreamy views that take us into the heart of this bizarre beauty. Look into these mesmerizing pictures where the flowers of seduction are bathed in the iridescent light of a thousand psychedelic suns. You are falling, faster and faster. You are rising higher and higher, sinking, spinning, swimming in a silent sea of secluded shadows. You are . . . There. •



Untitled, oil on canvas, 30" x 42", 1987.



Untitled, oil on canvas, 60" x 76", 1985.





John Shirley is a skinny, white, twitchy kind of guy, who has—along with the motley crew of other so-called "cyberpunk" writers (see November 1987 HIGH TIMES)—kicked some life into the science-fiction world's complacent butt in the last few years. Now a comparatively mellow 35 (settled down with a wife and kid outside L.A.), Shirley has been writing glandularly urgent, street-soiled science fiction since he was an alienated teenager in Portland, Oregon. His first novel, *Transmaniacon* (originally published more

than ten years ago and now out of print) showed a raw, energetic talent at work on the most important issues of the day—sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll. Those preoccupations still persist, but they've been joined by a sharp sense of socio-political awareness and a deepening concern for the fate of the human species. He describes Eclipse Penumbra (the novel from which "Six Kinds of Darkness" is excerpted) as a "futuristic thriller" that is "an intense exercise in trying to spelunk the depths of near-future social reality. It deals with issues of political and economic struggle—how political power emerges from economic power, and how those that seek power exploit basic tribal urges in human masses, like racism and militarism." The story, which began in Eclipse (also available from Questar/Popular Library), will conclude next fall with Total Eclipse. Other recent work includes A Splendid Chaos: An Interplanetary Fantasy (Franklin Watts), which he calls "a science-fiction adventure in a surrealistic landscape, in which an interplanetary setting is used as a staging area of metaphor," and In Darkness Waiting (NAL/Onyx), a gruesome horror novel that deals with "our easy capacity to suppress empathy." Shirley has also been busily at work on several film projects (why else does anyone live in L.A.?), banging out a screenplay for underground filmmaker Charles Atlas, Black Glass (a Fellini-esque look at future performance art), a collaboration with cyberpunk hotshot William Gibson, called Macrochip, currently in development with Max Headroom producer Peter Wagg, and an adaptation of the Gibson story "New Rose Hotel" for producers Ed Pressman (Wall Street) and Malcolm McLaren (!) to be directed by Kathryn Bigelow, whose Near Dark Shirley calls "the best vampire movie since Tod Browning's Dracula."

harlie'd say, "I'm into it once or twice—but you, you got a jones for it, man." And Angelo'd snicker and say, "Gives my life purpose, man. Gives my life direction."

You could smell the place, the Hollow Head, from two blocks away. Anyway, you could if you were strung out on it. The other people on the street probably couldn't make out the smell from the background of monoxides, the broken-battery smell of acid rain, the itch of syntharette smoke, the oily rot of the river. But a user could pick out that tease of Amyl Tryptaline, thinking, Find it like a needle in a haystack. And he'd snort, and then go reverent-serious, thinking about the needle in question . . . the needle in the nipple. . . .

It was on East 121st Street, a half-block from the East River. If you stagger out of the place at night, you'd better find your way to the lighted end of the street fast, before the leeches crawled out of the river after dark, slug-creeping up the walls and onto the cornices of the old buildings; they sensed your bodyheat, and an eight-inch ugly brute lamprey thing could fall from the roof, hit your neck with a wet slap, inject you with paralyzing toxins; you fall over and its leech cronies come and drain you dry.

When Charlie turned onto the street it was just sunset; the leeches weren't out of the river yet, but Charlie scanned the rooftops anyway. Clustered along the rooftops were the shanties....

The immigrants had swarmed to the mecca of disenchantment till New York became another

Mexico City, ringed and overgrown with shanties—shacks of clapboard, tin, cardboard, protected with flattened cans and wrapper plastic. Every tenement rooftop in Manhattan mazed with shanties, sometimes shanties on shanties, till the weight collapsed the roofs and the old buildings caved in, the crushed squatters simply left dying in the rubble—firemen and Emergency teams rarely set foot outside the sentried, walled-in havens of the midtown class.

Charlie was almost there. It was a mean motherfucker of a neighborhood, which is why he had the knife in his boot-sheath. But what scared him was the Place. Doing some Room at the Place. The Hollow Head. His heart was pumping and he was shaky but he wasn't sure if it was from fear or anticipation or if, with the Hollow Head, you could tell those two apart. But to keep his nerve up, he had to look away from the Place, as he got near it: tried to focus on the rest of the street. Some dumbfuck pollyanna had planted saplings on the sidewalk, in the squares of exposed dirt where the original trees had stood. But the acid rain had chewed the leaves and twigs away; what was left was stark as TV antennas . . . Torchglow from the roofs; and a melange of noises that seemed to ooze down like something greasy from an overflowing pot. Smells of tarry wood burning; dogfood smells of cheap canned food cooking. And then he was standing in front of the Hollow Head. A sootblackened townhouse; its Victorian facade of

continued over

cherubims recarved by acid rain into dainty gargoyles. The windows bricked over, the stone between them streaked grey on black from acid erosion.

he building to the right was hunchbacked with shacks; the roof to the left glowed from oil-barrel fires. But the roof of the Hollow Head was dark and flat, somehow regal in its sinister austerity. No one shacked on the Hollow Head.

He took a deep breath, and told himself, "Don't hurry through it, savor it this time," and went in. Hoping that Angelo had waited for him.

Up to the door, wait while the camera scanned you. The camera taking in Charlie Chesterton's triple mohawk, each fin a different color; Charlie's gaunt face, spiked transplas jacket, and customized mirrorshades. He heard the tone telling him the door had unlocked. He opened it, smelled the Amyl Tryptaline, felt his bowels contract with suppressed excitement. Down a red-lit hallway, thick black paint on the walls, the turpentine smell of A.T. getting stronger. Angelo wasn't there; he'd gone upstairs already. Charlie hoped Ange could handle it alone.... The girl in the banker's window at the end of the hall—the girl wearing the ski mask, the girl with the sarcastic receptionist's lilt in her voice-took his card, gave him the Bone Music receptor, credded him in. Another tone, admission to Door Seven, the first level. He walked down to Seven, turned the knob, stepped through and felt it immediately; the tingle, the rush of alertness, the chemically-induced sense of belonging, four pleasurable sensations rolling through him and coalescing. It was just an empty room with the stairs at the farther end; soft pink lighting, the usual cryptic palimpsest of graffiti on the walls.

He inhaled deeply, felt the Amyl Tryptaline go to work almost immediately; the pink glow intensified; the edges of the room softened, he heard his own heartbeat like a distant beatbox. A barbed wisp of anxiety twined his spine (wondering, Where's Angelo, he's usually hanging in the first room, scared to go to the second alone, well, shit, good riddance) and he experienced a paralytic seizure of sheer sensation. The Bone Music receptor was digging into his palm; he wiped the sweat from it and attached it to the sound wire extruding from the bone back of his left ear—and the music shivered into him . . . it was music you felt, more than heard; his acoustic nerve picked up the thudding beat, the bass, a distorted veneer of the synthesizer. But most of the music was routed through the bone of his skull, conducted down through the spinal column, the other bones. It was a music of shivery sensations, like a funny-bone sensation, sickness sensations, chills and hot flashes like influenza but it was a sickness that

caressed, viruses licking at your privates and you wanted to come and throw up at the same time. He'd seen deaf people dancing at rock concerts; they could feel the vibrations from the loud music; could feel the music they couldn't hear. It was like that but with a deep, deep humping brutality, like having sex with an obviously syphilitic whore and enjoying it more because you knew she was diseased. The music shivered him from his paralysis, nudged him forward. He climbed the stairs....

Bone Music reception improved as he climbed, so he could make out the lyrics, Jerome-X's gristly voice singing from inside Charlie's skull:

Six kinds of darkness, Spilling down over me, Six kinds of darkness, Sticky with energy.

Charlie got to the next landing, stepped into the second room.

Second room used electric field stimulation of nerve ends; the metal grids on the wall transmitted signals that stimulated the neurons, initiating pleasurable nerve impulses; other signals were sent directly to the dorsal area in the hypothalamus, resonating in the brain's pleasure center....

Charlie cried out, and fell to his knees in the infantile purity of his gratitude. The room glowed with benevolence; the barren, dirty room with its semen-stained walls, cracked ceilings, naked red bulb on a fraying wire. As always he had to fight himself to keep from licking the walls, the floors. He was a fetishist for this room, for its splintering wooden floors, the mathematical absolutism of the grid-patterns in the grey metal transmitters set into the wall. Turn off those transmitters and the room was shabby, even ugly, and pervaded with stench; with the transmitters on it seemed subtly intricate, starkly sexy, bondage gear in the form of interior decoration, and the smell was a ribald delight.

(The Hollow Head was drug paraphernalia you could walk into. The building itself was the syringe, the hookah, the sniff-tube. The whole building was the paraphernalia—and the drug itself.)

nd then the room's second phase cut in: the transmitters stimulated the motor cortex, the reticular formation in the brainstem, the nerve pathways of the extrapyramidal system, in precise patterns computer formulated to mesh with the ongoing Bone Music. Making him dance. Dance across the room, feeling he was caught in a choreographed whirlwind (flashing: genitals interlocking, pumping, male and female, male and male, female and female, tongues and cocks and fingers pushing into pink bifurcations, contorting purposefully to guide between fleshy globes, the thrusting a heavy downhill flow like an emission of

igneous mud, but firm pink mud, the bodies rounded off, headless, Magritte torsos going end to end together, organs blindly nosing into the wet receptacles of otherness), semen trickling down his legs inside his pants, dancing, helplessly dancing, thinking it was a delicious epilepsy, as he was marionetted up the stairs, to the next floor, the final room....

At the landing just before the third room, the transmitters cut off, and Charlie sagged, gasping, clutching for the banister, the black-painted walls reeling around him.... He gulped air, and prayed for the strength to turn away from the third room, because he knew it would leave him fried, yeah, badly crashed and deeply burnt-out. He turned off the receptor for a respite of quiet.... In that moment of weariness and self-doubt he found himself wondering where Angelo was, had Angelo really gone onto the third room alone? Ange was prone to identity crises under the Nipple Needle. If he'd gone alone—little Angelo Demario with his rockabilly hair and spurious pugnacity—Angelo would sink, and lose it completely.... And what would they do with people who were overdosed on an identity hit? Dump the body in the river, he supposed....

He heard a yell mingling ecstasy and horror, coming from an adjacent room, as another Head customer took a nipple...that made up his mind: like seeing someone eat making you realize you're hungry. He gathered together the tatters of his energy, switched on his receptor, and went through the door.

The Bone Music shuddered through him, too strong now that he was undercut, weakened by the first rooms. Nausea wallowed through him.

The darkness of the Arctic, two months into the night,

Darkness of the Eclipse, forgetting of all light.

Angelo wasn't in the room and Charlie was selfishly glad as he took off his jacket, rolled up his left sleeve, approached the black rubber nipple protruding from the metal breast at waist-height on the wall. As he stepped up to it, pressed the hollow of his elbow against the nipple; felt the computerguided needle probe for his mainline and fire the I.D. drug into him...

The genetic and neurochemical essence of a woman. They claimed it was synthesized. He didn't give an angel's winged asshole where it came from, right then: it was rushing through him in majestic waves of titanic intimacy. You could taste her, smell her, feel what it felt like to be her (they said it was an imaginary her, modeled on someone real, not really from a person...).

Felt the shape of her personality superimposed on you so for the first time you weren't burdened with your own identity, you could find oblivion in someone else, like identifying with a fictional protagonist but infinitely more real....

But oh shit. It wasn't a her. It was a him. And Charlie knew instantly that it was Angelo. They had shot him up with Angelo's distilled neurochemistry—his personality, memory, despairs, and burning urges. He saw himself in flashes as Angelo had seen him.... And he knew, too, that this was no synthesis, that he'd found out what they did with those who died here, who blundered and O.D.'d: they dropped them in some vat, broke them down, distilled them and molecularly linked them with the synthcoke and shot them into other customers.... Into Charlie....

He couldn't hear himself scream, over the Bone Music (Darkness of an iron cask, lid down and bolted tight). He didn't remember running for the exit stairs (And three more kinds of darkness, three I cannot tell), down the hall, (Making six kinds of darkness, Lord please make me well) out into the street, running, hearing the laughter from the shantyrats on the roofs watching him go.

Him and Angelo running down the street, in one body. As Charlie told himself: "I'm kicking this thing. It's over. I shot up my best friend. I'm through with it."

Hoping to God it was true. Lord please make me well.

Bottles swished down from the rooftops and smashed to either side of him. And he kept running.

He felt strange.

e could feel his body. Not like usual. He could feel it like it was a weight on him, like an attachment. Not the weight of fatigue—he felt too damn eerie to feel tired—but a weight of sheer alienness. It was too big. It was all awkward and its metabolism was pitched too low, sluggish, and it was....

It was the way his body felt for Angelo.

Angelo wasn't there, in him. But then again he was. And Charlie felt Angelo as a nastily foreign, squeaky, distortion membrane between him and the world around him.

He passed someone on the street, saw them distorted through the membrane, their faces funhouse-mirror twisted as they looked at him—and they looked startled.

The strange feelings must show on his face. And in his running.

Maybe they could see Angelo. Maybe Angelo was oozing out of him, out of his face. He could feel it. Yeah. He could feel Angelo bleeding from his pores, dripping from his nose, creeping from his ass.

A sonic splash of: Gidgy you wanna do a video hook-up with me? (Gidgy replying:) No, that shit's

grotty Ange, last time we did that I was sick for two days. I don't like pictures pushed into my brain. Couldn't we just have, you know, sex? (She touches his arm.)

God, I'm gonna lose myself in Angelo, Charlie thought. Gotta run, sweat him out of me.

Splash of: Angelo, if you keep going around with those people, the police or those SA people are going to break your stupid head. (Angelo's voice:) Ma, get off it, you don't understand what's going on, the country's getting scared, they think there's gonna be nuclear war, everyone's lining up to kiss the Presidential Ass 'cause they think she's all that stands between us and the fucking Russians—(His mother's voice:) Angelo don't use that language in front of your sister, not everyone talks like they do on TV—

Too heavy, body's too heavy, his run is funny, can't run anymore, but I gotta sweat him out—

Flash pictures to go with the splash voices now: Motion-rollicking shot of sidewalk seen from a car window as they drive through a private-cop zone, SA bulls in mirror helmets walking along in twos in this high-rent neighborhood, turning their glassy-blank assumption of your guilt toward the car, the world revolves as the car turns a corner, they come to a checkpoint, the new Federal I.D. cards are demanded, shown, they get through, feeling of relief, there isn't a call out on them yet... blur of images, then focus on a face walking up to the car. Charlie Chesterton. Long, skinny, goofylooking guy, self-serious expression....

Jesus, Charlie thought, is that what Angelo thinks I look like? Shit! (Angelo is dead, man, Angelo is . . . is oozing out of him. . . .)

Feeling sick now, stopping to gag, look around eonfusedly, oh fuck: two cops were coming toward him. Regular cops, no helmets, wearing blue slickers, plastic covers on their cop-caps, their big ugly cop-faces hanging out so he wished they wore the helmets, supercilious faces, young but ugly, their heads shaking in disgust, one of them said: "What drug you on, man?"

He tried to talk but a tumble of words came out, some his and some Angelo's, it was like his mouth was brimming over with little restless furry animals: Angelo's words.

The cops knew what it was. They knew it when they heard it.

One cop asked the other (as he took out the handeuffs, and Charlie had become a retching machine, unable to run or fight or argue because all he could do was retch), "Jeez, it makes me sick when I think about it. People shooting up some 'a somebody else's brains. Don't it make you sick?"

"Yeah. Looks like it makes him sick too. Let's take him to the chute, send him down for the blood-test."

He felt the snakebite of cuffs, felt the cops do a

perfunctory body-search, missing the knife in his boot. Felt himself shoved along to the police kiosk on the corner, the new prisoner-transferral chutes. They put you in something like a coffin (they pushed him into a greasy, sweat-stinking, inadequately padded personnel capsule, closed the lid on him, he wondered what happened—as they closed the lid on him-if he got stuck in the chutes. were there air-holes, would he suffocate?) and they push it down into the chute inside the kiosk and it gets sucked along this big underground tube (he had a sensation of falling, then felt the tug of inertia, the horror of being trapped in here with Angelo, not enough room for the two of them, seeing a flash mental image of Angelo's rotting corpse in here with him, Angelo was dead, Angelo was dead) to the police station. The cops' street-report clipped to the capsule. The other cops read the report, take you out (a creak, the lid opened, blessed fresh air even if it was the police station), take everything from you, check your DNA print against their files, make you sign some things, lock you up just like that . . . that's what he was in for right away. And then maybe a public AVL beating. Ironic.

harlie looked up at a bored cop-face, an older fat one this time. The cop looked away, fussing with the report, not bothering to take Charlie out of the capsule. There was more room to maneuver now and Charlie felt like he was going to rip apart from Angelo's being in there with him if he didn't get out of the cuffs, out of the capsule. So he brought his knees up to his chest, worked the cuffs around his feet, it hurt but . . he did it, got his hands in front of him.

Flash of Angelo's memory: A big cop leaning over him, shouting at him, picking him up by the neck, shaking him. Fingers on his throat....

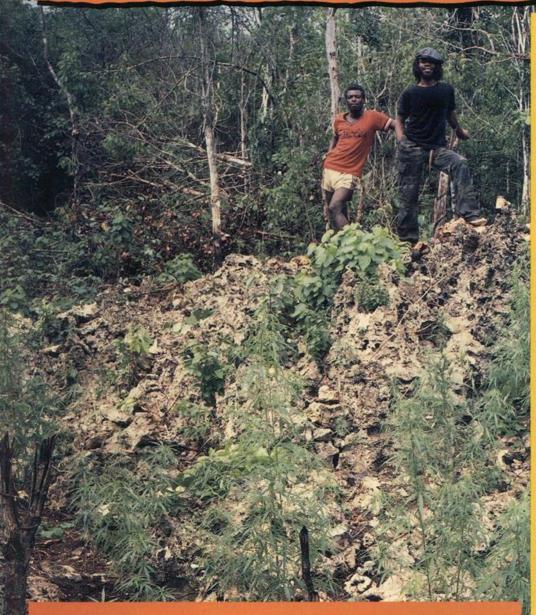
When Angelo was a kid some cop had caught him running out of a store with something he'd ripped off. So the cop roughed him up, scared the shit out of Angelo, literally: Angelo shit his pants. The cop reacted in disgust (the look of disgust on the two cops' faces: "Makes me sick," one of them had said).

So Angelo hated cops and now Angelo was out of his right mind—ha ha, he was in Charlie's—and so it was Angelo who reached down and found the boot-knife that the two cops had missed, pulled it out, got to his knees in the capsule as the cop turned around (Charlie fighting for control, damn it Ange, put down the knife, we could get out of this),and Charlie—no, it was Angelo—gripped the knife in both hands and stabbed the guy in his fat neck, split that sickening fat neck open, cop's blood is as red as anyone's, looks like....

Oh shit. Oh no.

Here come the other cops.

VISITTO A SMALL PLANTATION



Above: Lloyd "Swinger" Hilton (left) and Clifford "Lightning" James stand above their largest field, a horseshoe-shaped plot that will eventually yield about 60 pounds. The volcanic soil is rich in limestone, and rock formations act as small containers that protect the plants.

Story by John Holmstrom Photos by Andre Grossmann

ne of the most popular tourist attractions in Negril is a visit to one of the local marijuana fields. Every other man, woman, or child in Negril will offer to take you on a visit to the pot fields.

As with any slightly illegal deal, you've got to be careful when dealing with the local

hustle—you can get burned. Some guides will hold you up for unexpected cash payments, others bring you to a "ganja plantation" that consists of a few scrawny plants. Because helicopters have been burning the large fields, there aren't many left. Whatever the outcome of your visit, set

the ground rules—price, time, and expectations—up front.

We lucked out. Clifford "Lightning" James not only knew where some good-looking local fields were, he helped carry our heavy photo equipment and guided us through the thick jungle bush and the sharp rock cliffs. Not only that—to celebrate our adventure, he cooked up the best meal we had in Negril. Cliff introduced us to one of the local growers, Lloyd "Swinger" Hilton, who seemed wary of us. We were led to very small fields at first, until Lloyd seemed assured we weren't police or rip-off artists.

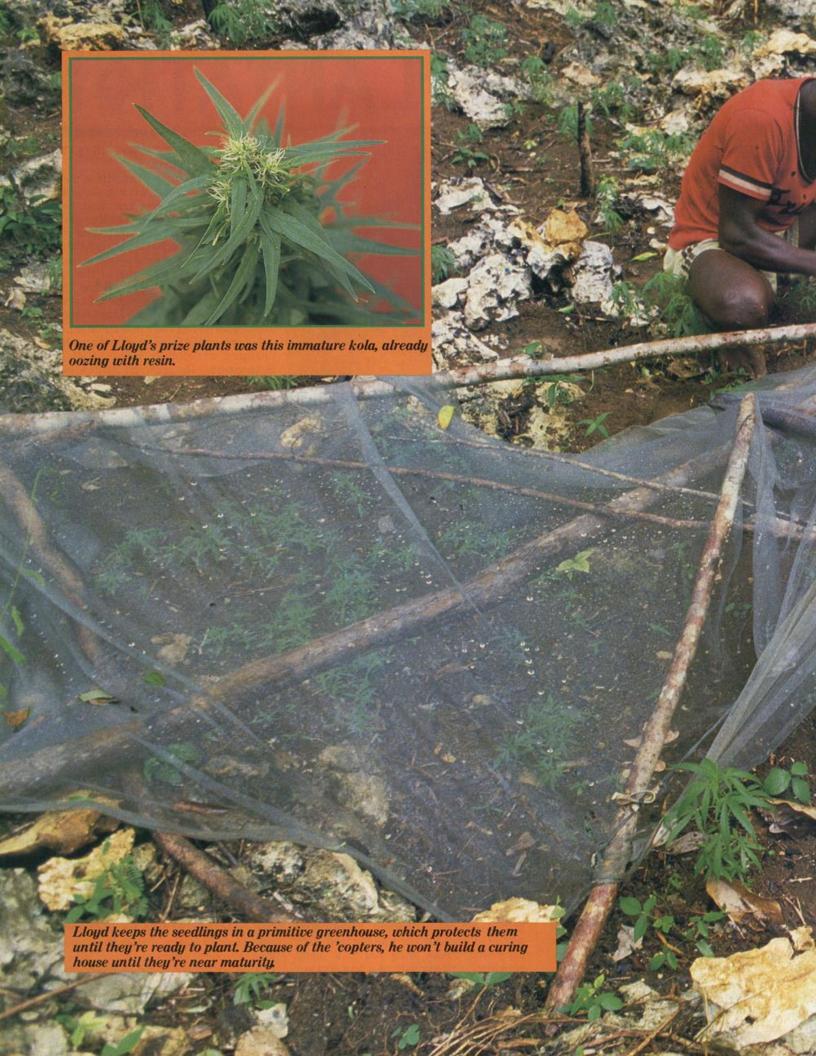
In Jamaica, the rules for growing pot have changed drastically because of the helicopters. To grow quantities large enough to sell, pot farmers grow many small patches over a very large, spread-out area, and hope that enough of them survive insect infestations, hungry goats, and helicopter attacks to make a living. We visited a dozen small fields around the Negril area, most of which were under heavy natural cover from aerial views. The fields in these photos were located far from the center of Negril. It took hours, walking through the bush, to reach them.

Lloyd had very simple advice for growing: "You gotta live with the plants, sleep with the plants." Lloyd works on the fields every day, adding mulch to the soil. He didn't have much advice for growing, aside from adding lobster shells ("anything from the sea is good for the plants") to the fertilizer. His daily work consists of adding mulch to the plants, locating and removing male plants and hermaphrodites, and removing or spraying the insects. While showing off his thickest bushes, Lloyd plucked a worm off a plant. It was a huge, ugly green fucker—almost three inches long.

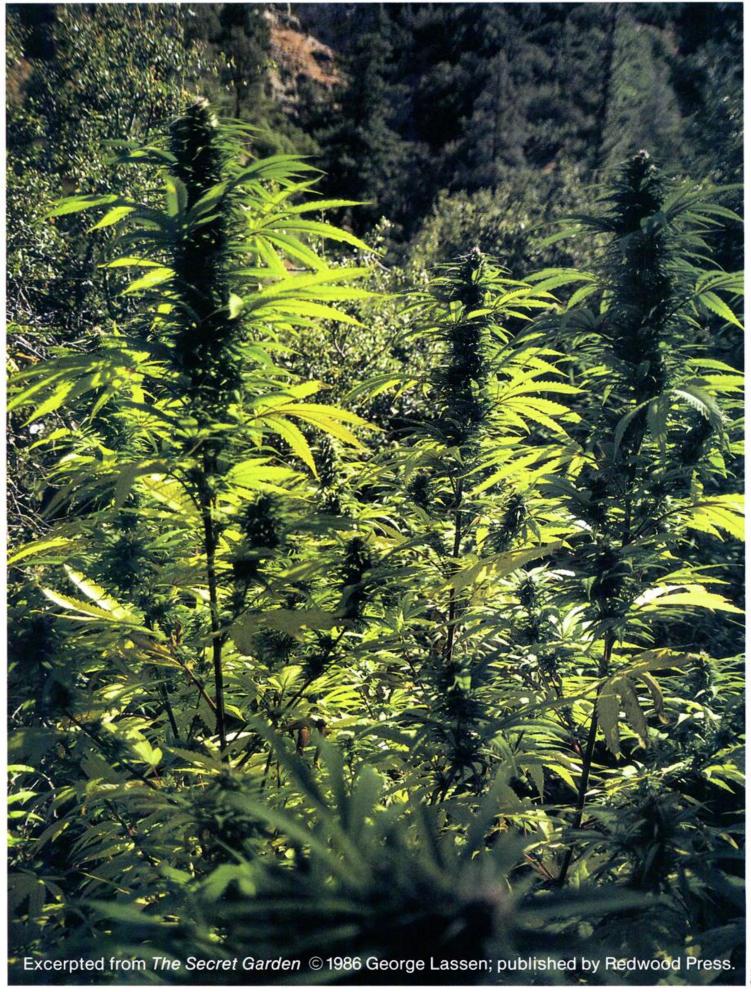
Like most Jamaican pot farmers, Lloyd grows food along with his ganja—cabbage, collard greens, eggplant, oranges, bananas, and tomatoes. According to Lloyd, it's much easier to grow pot than vegetables. Bugs like the food crops better than ganja.

When indoor growing was mentioned to Lloyd and Cliff, they looked at us as if we were crazy. "Why would anyone need to grow indoors?" they asked. Since Jamaica has an ideal climate for outdoor growing and few households enjoy the luxury of electricity—and the Jamaican people don't enjoy the constitutional freedoms we do—it was next to impossible to explain the concept to them. Lloyd's only shelter was a pitifully small lean-to, barely large enough for him to sleep under.

After we got home, we received reports that helicopters buzzed Negril just days after we left. We didn't find out how many of Lloyd's fields survived the attacks.



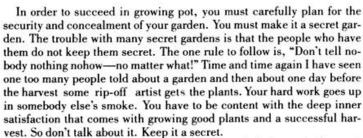




The Secret Garden

by George Lassen

Violence is the last refuge of the incompetent. Salvor Hardin



A good way to handle the secrecy is to keep the information between you and your spouse or partner, and do all the work yourself. Now, in some cases this is not possible. For example, if you did everything right and you have a bumper crop, you might need to get some help drying and trimming. In a situation like this you still do not need to let anybody know the location of the garden, because you will want to grow there next year. You can farm out some of the trimming or take it to another location.

If an outside partner is necessary, be careful. Problems with partners are the rule rather than the exception, the most common being laziness. There are more stories about non-performing partners than any others. Resolve all differences early, and be very clear about any sharing of the harvest. You cannot easily put this type of agreement into writing, but that is about the only way to keep things straight. A growing partnership is like a marriage. If you don't genuinely like or respect your partner, it's going to be a long time until harvest. More partnerships fail than succeed.

After you see how much work it is to set up a garden, you will probably want to be able to use it for several years. There are many days of work involved in setting up a proper garden. Also, it usually takes a year to work the bugs out of a new garden, or learn the ropes if you are a new gardener.

Selecting a Site

Secret gardens can be almost any place. An outside garden is very tricky. The spot must receive adequate sun for the plant to grow well, and you must be able to get water and fertilizer to the location, but must be almost totally invisible from the air and difficult to stumble across by accident on the ground. I say "almost" because it is very difficult to be completely invisible from a helicopter.

Sunlight may be the most important element in growing large, robust plants (assuming adequate soil and water are provided). Of course, the lack of any key element will limit the size of harvested plants. Similar gardens, differing only in the amounts of sunlight, consistently show the garden with more light producing bigger, bushier plants.

It really pays to spend some time walking around looking for all as-

pects of your location. For security reasons you must pay particular attention to the air. If you have 100 degrees of clear view from any direction, you are likely to be busted or ripped off. Less than 50 degrees is much better

Surveillance aircraft look mostly on south-facing slopes and along naturally occurring streams. Their logic is correct. These places are the most desirable and will produce the largest plants with the least work. Think one or two steps ahead of the law and rip-offs. Avoid these likely spots, or use them with care.

For just a minute close your eyes and think of yourself as a lawman flying over the countryside, looking for pot gardens to bust. You have been doing this for five years, and you know exactly what you are looking for... Okay! Did that scare you a little? Now when you go out there, keep that in mind with every step you take. Go the lawman one better. Dress up a little, so you look neat, rent an airplane, load up the Pentax with high-speed film, and take about fifty (or more) photos of the area. Before seeking a pilot, get a map of the area nearby and locate your property. Then mark out some land that is nearby, but not touching yours.

Tell the pilot that you are thinking of buying some property and want to look at it from the air. Take out your maps and show the pilot the premarked area. Then direct the pilot to fly all around the area. Do this only in the winter or very early spring or you run the risk of upsetting other growers. They may even shoot you.

I know a couple of honest growers in my local area who will scout out and photograph an area in ultralite aircraft for their customers. They charge for this service, and it is well worth the price for the extra piece of mind.

Now, if you really want to scare yourself, fly back over your spots in the fall when The Crop is mature and see what the plants are like when they are six to ten feet tall.

There are almost as many ways and places to grow as there are growers. In the last few years the law has been increasingly successful at finding marijuana gardens. As they define their techniques, they will probably do even better.

Smaller gardens are harder to find (and hopefully not worth the trouble to bust). Many growers have taken to setting up plots that have only ten to twenty plants. They may have several of these small plots scattered over a large area to keep a low profile.

Another approach is to scatter one- and two-plant minigardens over the countryside, taking maximum advantage of all natural cover. This is becoming increasingly popular and highly successful. There is a lot more work to it with fencing and water lines, but the results are worth it. A single plant with natural cover all around is extremely difficult to see, and this has proven to be the best method of concealing a garden.

Many growers who want only two or three plants for their own use will plant in their vegetable gardens. They surround their marijuana with



corn, sunflowers, staked tomatoes, and pole beans. Then they bend and tie down all the branches of the marijuana plant to make it look like a low bush. It works. People don't see it.

Then there are the somewhat more unconventional ways. One grower filled the bed of a tired old pickup truck with a high-powered soil mix and planted in the truck. He had a two-way radio, and whenever he heard that the law was in his area, or when he heard low-flying aircraft, he moved the truck from the full sunlight that the plant normally enjoyed, to a very secluded spot. His vigilance paid off in a successful harvest.

Other growers have planted their entire crop in trees. They put a container in a tree or find a hollowed out stump, fill it with high-powered fertilizer and let mother nature take over. Tree planting has one big plus: almost no predators can climb up there to eat the grass. This system does



Problems with partners are the rule rather than the exception, the most common being laziness.

work, but it is more work than most people want to do. Watering seems to be the biggest problem.

Whenever possible it helps to plant your crop with evergreens to the north and sunlight to the south. This helps to hide your garden and still provides good sunlight for growth. The fact that these trees are of a similar color and big enough to break up the view has helped hundreds of growers. I know one fellow who crawls through acres of manzanita and clears a spot for each plant far away from any other. These plants are hidden so that they are almost impossible to see. Many growers are hiding their crops in young oak forests with regular, but not dense, coverage.

These people do lose a little in production because of reduced sunlight, but they more than make up for it in peace of mind. They will cut down a few trees and trim selected branches to let in the required light. The freshly trimmed stumps and branch ends are painted black so they will blend into the natural cover and be hard to see. This approach has been very successful. Planting in this way can still yield a half-pound per plant—more if it is well tended.

Some growers have been experimenting with locating their plots on other than south- or southwest-facing slopes. This seems to work if you are not too far down a slope. It is important that the plants get at least eight hours of sun each day. Note the location of the sun in the early part of November. If it is still a few degrees above the horizon on about the 10th of November at 4:00 PM, you probably have enough sun for a successful crop.

Waterlines are a dead giveaway to any secret garden. There are no statistics on how many gardens have been busted because of waterlines seen from the air, but it is one of the easiest things to spot, and ridiculously easy to follow on the ground. Most growers will bury their lines if they plan on using the same patch for several years. Another, more time-consuming, method is to move the lines each time the crop needs to be watered.

No matter how you deal with this problem, remember that your water lines must be as secret as your garden. This goes double for your water tanks. A water tank will almost always be visible from the air. Careful placement is a must. If the tank can be located near a regular garden or dwelling or some other structure, it may look like it belongs there and avoid unnecessary attention. On the other hand, if your garden is spotted and the water lines are followed back to the tank by your house, you might find yourself in a bit of a bind.

Look for heavy natural camouflage and add to it. The only real way to take care of hiding the entire water system is to plan months ahead. All of the digging and hiding should be done early in the rainy season. That way Mother Nature will help to cover what you do by dropping more leaves and twigs. In the spring new growth will jump up all around, covering whatever is there. Use anything that is lying around to hide the system: broken tree limbs, dead brush, and rotting logs, whatever you can find. Be imaginative. Avoid straight lines and clumps of things mounded together. Make everything blend with nature.

Keep in mind that some rip-off artists are just as sophisticated as the law. They fly their own planes for spotting and come in with four-wheel drives, bolt cutters, and semi-automatic weapons. I don't say things like this to scare you, but unfortunately they are part of reality. If you don't know about them and plan accordingly, you may be in trouble. I know many growers who keep a fulltime armed guard on their crops the last few weeks before harvest. They disappear if the law shows up, but they shoot at thieves.

It truly saddens me that this wonderful and useful herb has taken on such a disturbing cloak of violence and greed. In the last two years, in the Great Northwest alone, there have been at least three deaths directly



If you really want to scare yourself, fly over your garden in the fall when the plants are over six feet tall.

connected with the growing of marijuana, and a number of other beatings and shootings. Remember, the bigger the crop, the bigger the problems.

Security

Security must be one of your major considerations in selecting your garden site. One little slip to the wrong person and your garden is gone forever! The first principle of security is to keep anyone from finding out about your garden. The second is to keep animals from destroying it.

Do not protect your garden by booby trapping it! I believe that it is wrong to hurt people who may accidently stumble across your secret garden.

If you are growing on public land, or huge private timber holdings, the risk of discovery just goes with the territory. The act of hurting someone while you are growing on land that does not even belong to you is not acceptable. In fact, violence of any kind should be avoided. I do believe that it is right to take steps necessary to stop a thief from ripping you off. But it's best to exercise caution.



A dog is one of the best security devices you can find. A big dog! Two dogs are even better. One at each end of the garden. Dogs make a lot of noise, strike fear in the hearts of all animals, and send most two-legged predators on their way.

I know one grower who has dogs staked throughout his garden. They are chained in such a way as to overlap. He uses no fences and has no deer problems. People stay away, too. I heard of someone who built high, strong fences all around their garden and put in some big cats—three full-grown Bengal tigers and a leopard. That's fine, but imagine the food bill. The law had no trouble finding them because the operation was so big.

Another popular security device is an item called a Ripstopper. This is a commercial item that uses a radio transmitter to send out a wireless signal to a beeper device carried by the grower. The item uses a trip wire switch and/or a motion sensor. The alarm will sound even if the wires are cut. The Ripstopper will send an alarm in a line-of-sight transmission of up to half a mile (or more if the power supply is modified). This may not seem like much, but if it frees you to do other things within that range, it's worth it. A grower told me that, after sitting in his garden with a gun for two weeks, he could not stand it. He brought a Ripstopper. It sells for about \$250 and comes with one motion sensor. You provide the batteries.

Some people build their own with greater range and much reduced cost.

Sometimes good karma alone will get you through. I heard a story about a grower with fifteen plants way out in the middle of nowhere. This person went out to check his garden one day during the fall when his garden was in full flower but still three to four weeks away from harvest. He was shocked to the point of panic when he saw fresh horse poop and two sets of horse prints within ten feet of his plants. He spent the next forty-eight hours guarding his plants with a borrowed .357 magnum and fifty rounds of ammunition, all the time freaking out, thinking that there was no way he could ever shoot someone, and wondering what he would do if a thief showed up . . . armed?

After two days of this justified paranoia, he went home and went to bed for a much needed rest. He let go...and, beyond belief, he harvested all fifteen plants. This person obviously led a charmed life, and the odds of that ever happening again are beyond calculation.

Harvest can be a nerve-wracking time. However, often just the signs that "somebody's home" will be enough to stop rip-offs. With gates, fences, dogs, people, etc., you must stop other people from seeing the garden. If it is not seen, it will not have to be defended.

Camouflage

Keeping your garden hidden means making the maximum use of whatever natural cover you have available, and supplementing it where necessary. Always consider the need for camouflage with each step you take in developing your garden. Strive to maintain harmony with the surrounding environment.

Black plastic bags are highly visible from the air. If this type of container is used, it must be painted with earth-tone colors. Black plastic is shiny and reflects light as well as being a solid color that is not in harmony with the environment. There is a company in Northern California that makes a camo sleeve to fit over a fifteen-gallon plastic bag, but spray paint is cheaper, faster and more reliable.

Many farmers wear clothing that blends in with the environment. They avoid bright solid colors that stand out and are easy to spot from a distance. Some growers even go so far as to buy special camouflage clothing and hats from army surplus or specialty stores.

Trails in the woods need special consideration. Do not make obvious trails that lead directly to your garden. Tramping over the same path carrying hundreds of pounds of amendments will beat down vegetation and become highly visible from the ground or the air. Paths that run along forest edges or through the forest itself are hard to see. Go out of your way to avoid open spaces. Use rocks or fallen trees to walk on whenever possible. Trails that go up and down a hill are more difficult to see from the ground than trails that go laterally along the contour of the land. One grower goes downhill to about 100 feet below and off to one side of the garden and then makes a kind of sharp V-shaped turn back up the hill to the plot. If you have a fence, place the gate in an obscure location. Somewhere in the shade or surrounded by high bushes is best.



Whenever possible, it helps to plant your crop with evergreens to the north and sunlight to the south.

There is a type of camouflage netting, made out of nylon, that some growers have used. It is very light weight and lets a lot of light through the mesh. Unfortunately, from the air this stuff stands out like a sore thumb. The idea was to copy the tactics used in warfare to hide the crop. Forget it! Those people were not interested in letting in light, and their methods were much different. This stuff only fools ducks.

There is one use that has worked. Hiding trails. The camouflage material is rolled out along a path. Dirt, leaves and twigs are then scattered along its length.

When talking about growing marijuana at our local fertilizer store, irrigation equipment company, etc., many growers will talk about tomato plants instead of pot. Nobody is fooled by this ploy, but you will quickly find out if the other person is sympathetic to your cause by the way they act. And tomatoes (except for the fact that they are acid-loving) have many of the same biological needs. Many store owners and clerks love to play this game with you, so take advantage of the situation if it comes along. Some of them may even have a plant or two out on the south forty.

Do be careful of the other possibility, the clerk may be an agent of the DEA. I have never heard of this happening, but there is always a first time. Sting operations are not new. I know of two or three suppliers who carefully screen all prospective employees before hiring just to reduce the chance of this happening. Most suppliers want to protect your privacy because it means dollars in their pockets. And dollars are dwindling with the increased success of the law in finding gardens and growers getting out of the business. One non-agricultural businessman told me that his business has dropped off 25 to 40 percent due to reduced marijuana farming. He does not like marijuana and has never used it, but he likes to make money. Marijuana does have a positive impact on the local economies in the areas where it is grown, especially where there are many small growers. One clerk was arrested for selling seeds after repeated requests from an agent posing as a grower.

90

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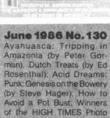
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This is a picture of my patch. The plants grew 10- to 12-feet tall with a big yield. I had about 52 plants growing in my backyard. The buds are tight and sweet.

I started planting the end of April. The plants were transplanted into 15-gallon containers in May. They had full sun. I use 20-20-20, then switch to 5-50-17 at the budding stage. The planting medium is a light soil mixed with perlite for drainage. The plants were harvested between October 10th and 15th, although some plants were ripe in late September. Some of the tops weighed over a half pound.

— Name Withheld U.S.A.



This heavy-yielding indica produced over a pound of incredible bud.

−G.F.

Brawn County, Wisconsin

This month, Homer Grown helped to select the photo winners.

continued on page 71



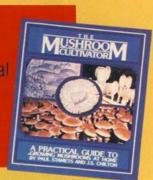
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A S K E D

continued from page 69

Dear Ed.

Do you really mean what you wrote in the September 1987 HIGH TIMES, "Don't turn or flip"? I was busted for pot. The DEA greeted my front door with a sledge hammer. I had a few pounds of weed and some one-week-old skunk seedlings under a light.

I won't go into detail about what the agents stole from my apartment.

I snitched on a heroin, PCP, cocaine, acid, pot dealer, and felt that I was doing society a favor at the same time. A month later the low-life faced a good bust.

When my court date came, the cop didn't show and called to let me know that he wasn't going to appear in the future.

Ed, most of what you write is true, but some of it can be real stupid. Smoke a doob and think about it.

—Anonymous,

U.S.A.

First, I would not smoke a joint anywhere around you, since you might inform on me if you were in a tight jam.

Secondly, if it was such a good deed for society how come you did not inform before you were busted? Or were you just saving your "good deed" for an emergency?

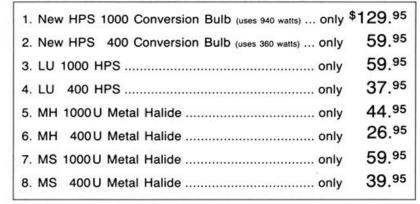
I do not think that most of the substances you mentioned are healthy for individuals or society. However, to make a judgment that sends someone to jail for a victimless offense which both parties enter into voluntarily is questionable. After all, the reason you were in your predicament is because someone else had made a judgment about your victimless action. Maybe an informer thought that you were the dregs of society and should be locked

When I was going to junior high school one of the kids in the class committed an offense but his identity was not discovered. The teacher said that she would punish the whole class unless someone informed. No one informed and the whole class was punished. The next time an incident occurred, someone informed. The class was not punished, only the perpetrator. However, the class lost its morale because no one could trust his classmates anymore. Eventually a kid in the class wrote a report on the Nazis and their techniques, and the teacher's methods were exposed for what they were. After that, the teacher had a very hard time with the kids in this class.

The DEA's effectiveness is based on this technique: turn your victim into an informer and make him part of the system. Your rationalization is as im-

continued on page 74

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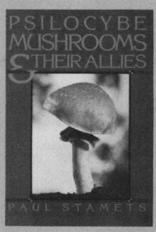
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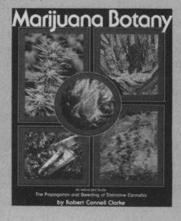
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potent as a stand of Kansas hemp. Only if we stick together can we impede the forces of repression.

DEA agents know that drug users are usually recidivists. Once they have an informer, they keep him on line by making sure he constantly has skirmishes with the law so that the cops can trade freedom for information. The cops can squeeze and squeeze until the individual becomes a pitiful rag which the cops toss away into prison once they are done with him. Perhaps he will meet some of the "buddies" he squealed on in prison.

Let this interchange be a lesson for all HIGH TIMES readers. If you know that someone has turned before, never let the person know that you are doing anything illegal. Never even talk with him in the vaguest way about anything that can be implied to be illegal. You will never know when that individual may feel the need to turn again.

These remarks are made to everyone who might be in contact with a snitch. No matter what relationship you may have with them: parent, child, sibling, lover, friend or business associate.

Dear Ed

I was taking some cuttings the other day and discovered I have a "blue-blooded" plant. This is the first plant I have ever had like this. When the stem was severed, a bright, almost blood red-colored sap oozed out. When I wiped this on a piece of white paper the color was in fact blue or purple. The strain is Mexican and no other plants from this variety seem to exhibit this trait. The plant looks very healthy. Have you ever encountered such a phenomenon? Could I possibly have stumbled across the lost genes from the fabled "Zihuatenejo Purple"?

Thanks,

—D.С.

Woodland Hills, California

I have seen plants with red or purplish sap, but the fabled Zihuatenejo Purple was a plant whose leaves and buds were entirely purple. While I never saw a live plant of this variety, I have seen photos. The variety existed.

Dear Ed,

A quick tip from a friend who used to be a cop. He told me that if you "feel the heat" and clean your house or apartment don't forget to get rid of the sweeper bag. He said that you wouldn't believe the number of people that get busted for weed, seeds, and leaves found in the vacuum bag. Talk about dirty!

-M.C.D.

Ohio

Dear Ed,

I have only females of a superior strain. Can the plants be stressed to produce signs of hermaphroditism? I want seeds for the future when cloning may be impractical.

—The Beefer, New Port Richey, Florida

A reliable method of producing male flowers on female plants would be a boon to farmers and breeders alike. The male plant is the weak link of every breeding program. People spend hours deciding which females to breed, and then almost arbitrarily choose the male. Yet the male contributes half of the genetic material to the new plant no matter whether the progeny is male or female. If male flowers could be included on female plants, direct female-to-female breeding programs could be initiated. Of course the female plants would carry only female chromosomes even though they have male flowers. Since the plants have no male genetic material all of the seed resulting from these crosses would be female.

I have received a number of letters which claim that either aspirin or gibberellic acid—available at some nurseries and mail-order companies—induces male flowers in plants. However, in experiments which I personally observed, these chemicals did not induce male flowers in various varieties of marijuana. Perhaps the timing of treatments affects the results.

Some plants which had only female flowers throughout the flowering cycle, produce male flowers as the females are going through the last

stages of ripening.

Hermaphroditism is a result of both genetic and environmental causes. Some hemp-type varieties of cannabis have been bred to be monoecious. These varieties have been bred for uniform fiber strength and uniform harvesting, since there is little or no sexual variation in the monoecious types. In some varieties, a higher proportion of males is produced under short-day regimes at germination. Other reports indicate that more males are produced under stress conditions.

Dear Ed,

We have two questions.

If marijuana has a gene for dwarfism, does it have one for giantism?

We are having trouble with sluggish rooting of clones. Would application of rooting hormone to the mother plant help?

Thanks,

—Larry,

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

It is possible that there is a gene for giantism. Researchers have not encountered it yet.

Remember the requirements for fast rooting of clones.

- 1. Chemicals: Use a good rooting agent. Probably the most effective propagation promoter is Dyna-Gro Root-Gel manufactured by the Dyna-Gro Corp., Novato, California. Some growers swear by Olivia's Propagating Liquid. While Rootone does not seem to be as effective, it will do in a pinch.
- 2. Fertilizers: After two days feed the cuttings with a low nitrogen (N) high phosphorous (P) fertilizer 1/4 strength. Increase fertilization to 1/2 strength as the first roots grow, and full strength grow formula as soon as vigorous leaf growth resumes.
- 3. Temperature: Keep the temperature in the rooting medium in the low to mid 70s. Horticultural heating cables and pads and fish tank heaters can be used to maintain temperature in cool areas.
- 4. Medium: Make sure that the cuttings are kept in a medium able to supply them with plenty of water and oxygen. Oasis floral foam cubes, vermiculite mixes, rock-wool, and water have all been used as mediums. All of them can have great success rates with appropriate care. The easiest method is probably to start the cuttings in water and place them in a solid medium as soon as the first roots bud from the stem.
- 5. Oxygen: The stems and young roots require oxygen. Ordinarily, water has quite a bit of oxygen dissolved in it. That is what fish breathe. Shaking it up saturates it with oxygen. Rooting mediums should be saturated with water, but maintain air pockets. This is easily accomplished with vermiculite mixes. When water is being used as the medium it should either be changed daily, or oxygenated using a small aquarium pump and bubblers.
- 6. Humidity: The cuttings should be kept in a high humidity environment. This can be easily achieved by placing a transparent cover over the rooting container. It should not be airtight, but it should be able to retain the high humidity. Make sure that the cover does not keep in too much heat.
- 7. Light: The cuttings should not receive as bright a light as vigorously growing plants. Place them three feet from HID lamps until roots are visible.
- 8. Cutting Size: Cuttings can be made any size from 1/2 inch up. Soft stems root better than woody stems. Trim the larger leaves off the cuttings so that the stem's ability to draw water is not overtaxed.

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Dear Ed.

I make hash oil and I used David Hoye's "double wash oil" technique using unleaded gas. But the stuff still has a bad smell. I am wondering if there is any way of getting rid of this odor.

Sincerely yours,

-Grower from Illinois

Gasoline is composed of hydrocarbons which are carcinogenic. Any odor is an indication of the presence of the substance. So it is not safe to use the oil. Rather than trying to remove the gasoline from the oil later, I suggest that you start off instead with a cleaner liquid, such as petroleum ether or ethyl alcohol, neither of which leaves residue.

Dear Ed,

Is it possible to turn an indoor crop a yellow or gold color by leaving the plants in total darkness before harvesting them? Would doing this have any effect on potency?

-Phil Buffalo, New York

Chlorophyll is the green pigment in plants which is used in photosynthesis. This is the process which combines elements from water (H₂0) and carbon dioxide (CO2) to produce sugar, the basic building block of plant tissue. In order to manufacture chlorophyll the plant requires light. Since chlorophyll is constantly being broken down and replaced as part of the life process, plants which are deprived of light become pale green and eventually turn almost yellow.

This is not a healthy state for the plants to be in, as they are basically starved of food and living off reserves. In a section of a garden where the sole light was broken for 10 days, buds were attacked by fungus while plants in the other sections remained healthy. Depriving plants of light not only uses up their sugar and starch reserves, but also halts all growth, since growth is dependent on photosynthesis and the energy of light.

The "cured" cannabis imported from Thailand and Colombia loses its green color after it is picked. The buds are placed in piles and exposed to the sun while they undergo a controlled anaerobic fermentation. Within a few days the chlorophyll is destroyed. leaving the other pigments to lend their yellow and red colors to the tissue.

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Downey

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politics working as a volunteer for both John and Robert Kennedy's presidential campaigns. In the early '70s, he left the world of entertainment to become a lobbyist for the Canteen Corporation. During this period, he served as a member of the Democratic National Committee, and helped write the platform for George McGovern's campaign. "I was a pablum-puker back then," he admits.

Downey's roots in Roman Catholicism, his financial success as a vice president for Canteen, and his growing conservatism all led to a split with the Democratic Party in 1976, shortly after Jimmy Carter was elected President.

In 1980, he became a national candidate for the short-lived American Independent Party, running as an antiabortionist. A year later, he obtained a mail-order Ph.D. in political science from Valley Christian University, a nonaccredited school located in Fresno, California. The school is a one-man operation run by Robert L. Poston. When asked about the program, Poston assured HIGH TIMES of its rigorous standards. "I don't know of anyone who's completed the Ph.D. program in less than a year," said Poston. (Valley Christian University has since moved to Georgia for tax purposes.)

Although Downey has no real college degree, he began billing himself as Dr. Downey. His career as a radio talk show host began in Cleveland on October 20, 1984. Within a year he'd received several death threats and was even shot at, but his show was a ratings success, and Downey was soon lured away to WMAQ in Chicago, where he remained until

November 1987.

Downey has been married three times and has three daughters. Knighted by the Vatican for his efforts against abortion and other humanitarian causes, he also has published a book of poetry.

"Mort will do anything to become a star," says a former business associate who wishes to remain anonymous. "He's a great actor, and he's very media savvy. He knows how to play to the camera and can argue both sides of an issue equally well."

Although Downey's initial ratings haven't been all that impressive, he has garnered an unusual amount of publicity, and tickets for the show-limited to 150-have been hard to obtain. Not all the publicity has been good; in December Downey was accused of slapping Andy Humm, a gay rights activist, during a taping of the show. The show was never aired, since Humm announced his intentions of suing Downey and his producers. "I'm not claiming bodily harm, but it was humiliating," says Humm, who is asking for \$500,000 in damages. •

R S

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YUPPIE CONFESSION

By most people's standards, I guess I'm a yuppie. But my friends and I enjoy the high life and my favorite pastime is growing dope! So, what's all the fuss about? I'm on your side. The time you spend putting me down would be better spent growing dope or getting high. Let's stick together, all right?

— J.B.

Watertown, New York

Most yuppies do not grow marijuana because they're too busy snorting cocaine while driving their BMWs and listening to Genesis on their CD players. Yuppies will never find solace in these pages. That's what Esquire, Rolling Stone, and GQ are for.

SWEDISH SCENE PALES

It was so nice to see Michael J. Weldon's story on "The Swedish Invasion". But I have a problem with the last paragraph, where Weldon states: "It is the first new and significant music movement of the '80s." Where the fuck has this guy been? What's happening in Sweden is only a faint reflection of what's already happened here in the last decade. The Swedish scene pales in comparison to what's happening in the U.S. and Australia.

-Rev. Joseph Longone Publisher, Fuzbrains Magazine P.O. Box 2436 Worcester, MA 01613

READERS' REQUEST LINE

Why are you ignoring the obvious solution to the personal tragedies that have resulted from cocaine abuse? Let's see some articles on growing coca plants and the preparation of the leaves for chewing, smoking, and drinking. In this context, coca is one of the most non-addictive substances known to man! By advocating cocaine in its natural form, HIGH TIMES can benefit humanity and make the government look like the total assholes they really are.

— The Coca-Bola Heroes Bridgeport, Connecticut



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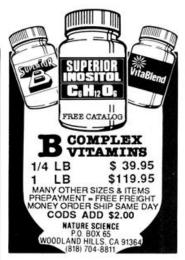
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continued from page 76

Dear Ed.

I read that seltzer water is a source of CO₂. If you lose the carbonation in the water, do you lose the CO2?

Thank you,

-Derby Town Grower, Louisville, Kentucky

For the most part. A small amount of CO, probably remains dissolved in the water.

The bubbles in seltzer water are formed when CO2, which is dissolved in the water, returns to its gaseous state. Under pressure, the water can hold a lot more CO2. When the pressure is released by opening the bottle, the water becomes super-saturated and releases the gas.

While not too cost-effective for large plants, which use copious quantities of CO2, seltzer sprays are an easy way of supplying CO, to seedlings and

small plants.

By the way, there is a difference between seltzer water and club soda. Club soda contains added salt, which is not good for the plants.

Dear Ed.

After putting my females through the budding stage, and after harvest, can I get the plants into vegetative growth stage again to take good quality clones off them? How long should I wait before taking the cuttings. Should the cuttings be soaked in water 24 hours before treating them with rooting hormone?

—G. Otto Know

Cape Cod, Massachusetts

Dear Ed.

How long must you leave rejuvenated plants in their vegetative stage to achieve maximum potency? Do they begin their life cycle over again?

-Sargeant "D"

Texas

Plants can be regenerated after harvest by putting the lights back on continuous cycle. Make sure to leave some green leaves on the plants or they will not grow. You can take cuttings once the plants reach an adequate size for your purposes. Treat the cuttings with rooting hormone when you place them in their rooting space.

The regeneration cycle looks like the plants are starting their growth all over again. The first leaves are singlefingered. The next set has three fingers and the next five or seven. However, the plant's infrastructure (root system and stems) are already in place so the plant can put its energy into leaf production.

Chemicals separately available upon

request. For more info, call: (818) 760-0688.

Dear Ed.

I read about the Sea of Green method which seems ideal. I took 80 cuttings. On 40 of the cuttings I used the S.S.S.C. method—18 hours of light a day. On the other 40 I used continuous light. Twentyone days later I had nine plants rooted using the S.S.S.C technique. They looked very sick and weak.

On the other hand, the 40 with continuous light all rooted and are looking great.

My question is how many plants can I grow per square foot?

-D.D.

Knoxville, Tennessee

Thanks for the experimental report D.D.

If you use 4-inch containers, you can grow 9 plants per square foot. These will start crowding each other unless they are flowered when they are 6-9 inches tall.

Dear Ed,

I've been an outdoor grower for ten years. I've got good strains of pure indica and indica-sativa which I developed.

Last year I ran into the best Thai weed I have ever seen. It was solid gold 6-10" buds. It was almost seedless. Fortunately, I found 20 mature seeds. I started 10 of them on April 20, in an outdoor greenhouse. By October 1st, I had 12 foot-tall beauties.

The problem is that I live in western Massachusetts and the frost was due anytime. The plants showed no sign of sex. How can I use the Thai in my breeding program?

-Pioneer Valley Purple Man Western Massachusetts

Thai weed has a peculiar flowering cycle. The female produces flowers over an extended period of time. Most of the marijuana in Thailand is grown in the Khorat Plateau in the northeast. This is between the 14th and 18th parallels. At the 15th parallel there is only about a two hour difference between summer and winter. Obviously, the light cycle does not play as critical a role in Thai flowering as in higher latitude plants.

The easiest way to use Thais in breeding is to grow them indoors or outdoors under controlled lighting conditions so that they receive only 10-11 hours of light once they are forced to flower. Expect a four to eight week period before male flowers are ripe. Collect and save the pollen for fertilizing the females that are to be crossed.

Thai plants tend to be hermaphroditic, so the most successful crosses will be made pollinating a female Thai which does not have male flowers with a male from the other variety to be hybridized. Once pollinated it will take the plants six to eight weeks to develop ripened seed.

continued over



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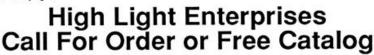
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continued from previous page

Dear Ed.

I have some suggestions for growers who are gone from their grow rooms for extended periods of time.

One reader wrote in suggesting that a GFCI circuit was necessary. I say it is neither necessary nor desirable. The main purpose behind a GFCI circuit is to protect people from electrical shock. If you get between electricity and a wet floor, a GFCI is more sensitive and will trip to protect you. A regular breaker might allow you to fry in a similar situation, but standard breakers do protect against dead electrical shorts-the kind that cause

This is the upshot: If this gentle reader equips his room with GFCI circuits, he is likely to come back to dead plants simply because an electrical storm tripped his GFCI's, they are that sensitive. My suggestion is to use good wiring practices and not overload any circuits. Remember, we all take electrical risks every time we leave our homes.

Another thing I would suggest is the use of a large water/nutrient container for the hydroponic system. I dislike valving into the water supply. If something breaks with the container system, you can only do 25 or 30 gallons worth of water damage, maximum, whereas it's unlimited the other way. I feel comfortable leaving for two weeks at a time. In fact, I just got back from a ten-day vacation with no problems.

Regarding the reader whose clones are not rooting well: Is it possible that rooting solutions lose potency with age?

Sincerely. Rasta Reader,

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Thanks for the info, Rasta.

Yes, it is possible for the chemicals in the rooting preparations to lose potency. It is best to use fresh material. One way to retard staleness is to keep the rooting hormones refrigerated.

- I welcome comments, tips, and questions regarding marijuana and marijuana cultivation. Send all letters to Ask Ed. HIGH TIMES, 211 E. 43rd St., New York, NY 10017. Also send entries for the Bud, Plant, and Garden of the Month Contests. All correspondents whose letters or photos are used will receive a free copy of my book, Marijuana Growers Handbook, Indoor/Greenhouse Edition.
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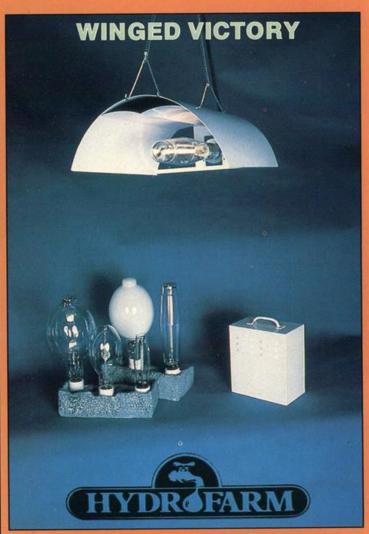
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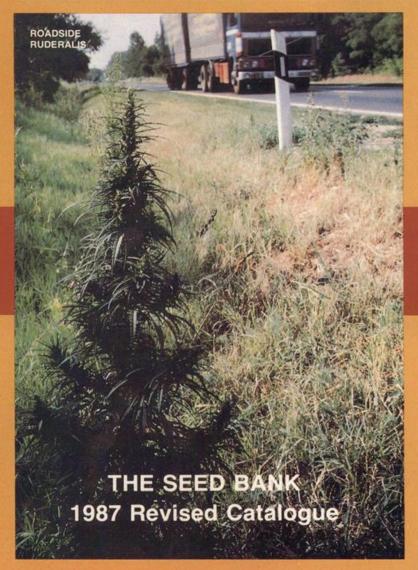


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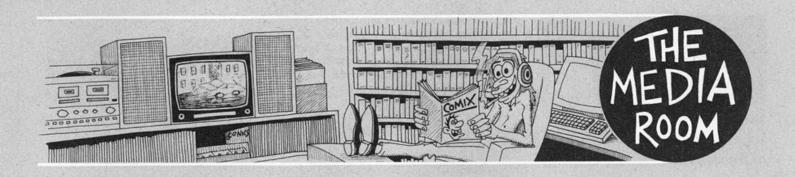
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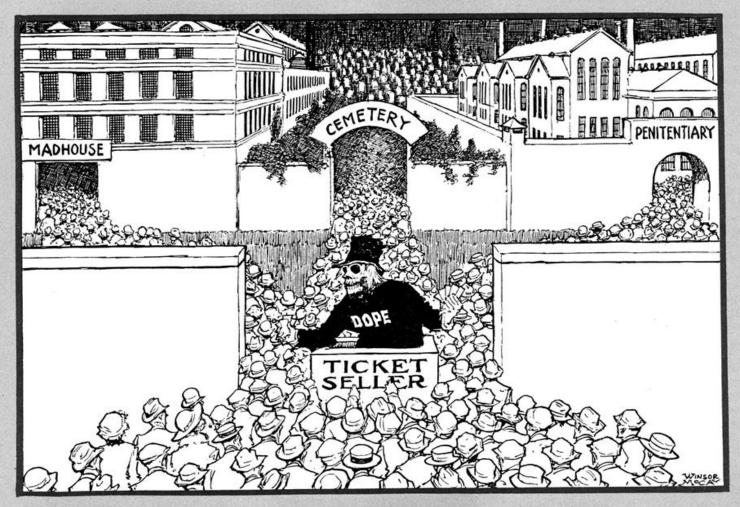
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Above: An example of Winsor McCay's "lame-limbed politico-editorial illustration." Ironically, this drawing was published just three days before McCay's death on July 26, 1934. According to Winsor McCay—His Life and Art, it is unknown whether McCay experimented with drugs, although several of his comic strips dealt with subject matter like mushrooms, hallucination, and smoking dope.



Winsor McCay-His Life and Art, by John Canemaker (Abbeville Press).

John Canemaker's book, Winsor McCay—His Life and Art, intelligently covers the cartoonist's career from his early days as a side-show tent painter through his travels as a comic strip creator, vaudeville performer, political cartoonist, and pioneer animator. Perhaps even more importantly, the story of McCay the man is well-covered, the unhappy days as well as the joyous. Winsor McCay worked so hard and with such gusto on a matter-of-fact basis that today's lazy, yuppified writers, artists, and editors might diagnose it as some sort of sickness. Aspiring cartoonists will take heart (or gun-in-mouth, depending on the state of mind) in learning that

McCay was no spring chicken when he achieved his first great success (he was 38 when Little Nemo made its debut in 1905), and that, as late as the mid-'20s, and having already proven himself a major talent in the graphic arts, McCay was hassled by big boss William Randolph Hearst, Sr., and forced to illustrate lame-limbed politicoeditorial pieces written by an advisor of Hearst's.

But the star of this show is Winsor McCay's art. It's high, wide, powerful, and—more often than not—psychedelic.

-Milton Knight



Sleaze, Gore, Splatter, & More by Michael J. Weldon

TRASH MOVIE FANS! Where can you find useful, up-to-date information about the constant barrage of horror/ exploitation/sleaze movies and videos?? Maybe you buy slick national magazines, but *Cinefantastique* is too mainstream and expensive, and *Fangoria* spends too much time on gore effects. Neither mag has enough opinions. *Filmfax* is good, but only covers older movies.

For info on new movies that I call "Psychotronic" you have to turn to fanzines—those money-losing, xeroxed, stapled, mail-order publications put out by people who really care. With no advertisers, publishers or editors breathing down their necks, fanzine writers can be as opinionated, incoherent, insulting, and stupid as they want. If they don't like something, you know it.

Science fiction and horror fanzines have been around for a long time, but in 1980 a new style 'zine movement was started in the New York area by some bored, lowlife scum office workers who spent too much time lurking on 42nd St. The infamous Sleazoid Express was first. Bill Landis' publication eventually mutated into an indescribable, unflinching, hardcore look at life at the bottom. It's no longer published, but armchair thrillseekers now pay for third generation copies of rare original issues. Rick Sullivan started Gore Gazette (No. 100 should be out by now) as a reaction to Sleazoid reviews he didn't agree with. (Landis hated Mother's Day ['80], while Sullivan loved it.) The Gazette always has sick cover photos, is usually four pages long, and is now available in an unauthorized Italian edition (!). (Gore Gazette, c/o Rick Sullivan, 496 Hazel St., Clifton, NJ 07011.)

Having the time and cash to keep these rags going is a nearly impossible task, and many other early '80s publications gave up after a while. The best of the now-collectible ex-'zines are *Trashola* (from San Francisco), *Confessions of a Trash Fiend* (Old Bridge, New Jersey), *Chicago Shivers, The Splatter Times* (Cookeville, Tennessee), and my own weekly *Psychotronic*, which covered movies shown on television in the New York area.

My favorite guide that's still published is *Slimetime*, a monthly ten (or more)-page look at new and old theatrical and

video releases. *Slimetime* often has special features (biker movies, LSD movies, Blaxploitation, etc.), is published on time, reviews other 'zines and actually makes me laugh sometimes (instead of making me wonder when the editor is going to become a serial killer). (*Slimetime*, c/o Steve Pulchalski, 1108 E Genesee St. #103, Syracuse, NY 13210.)

While some fanzines are published on a very irregular basis, I'm not sure if others still come out at all. Here are some sure bets worth subscribing to:

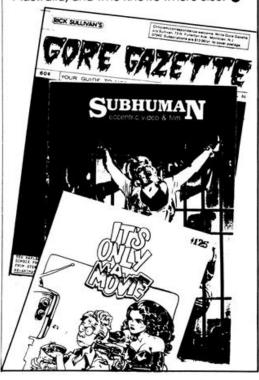
Hi-Tech Horror (all obscure video release reviews/monthly), c/o Craig Ledbetter, P.O. Box 5367, Kingswood, Texas 77325.

Scarephanelia (reviews/interviews/ soundtrack info/ten pages/monthly), c/o Michael Gingold, 55 Nordica Dr., Croton-On-Hudson, NY 10520.

Subhuman (reviews/letters/covers porn/accepts ads/bi-monthly), c/o Cecil Doyle, 1509 W. St. Mary, Lafayette, LA 70506.

Wet Paint (resembles '60s fanzines but covers current sleaze obsessions/ reviews/articles/'zine reviews/30 pages/ bi-monthly) c/o Jeff Smith, 2124 Tradewind #90, Mesquite, Texas 75150.

This is only a partial list, but once you get in the habit, you'll probably want to subscribe to several 'zines to keep up with what's going on, so ask for subscription rates, as well as sample copies, when you write. A future column will cover more American fanzines that are harder to classify, like the almost-pro Magick Theatre, the unique, eclectic It's Only a Movie (from Chicago), 'zines about Italian westerns, and some of the many 'zines from England, Canada, Australia, and who knows where else.





Filthy Fuck Tunes by James Marshall



2 Live Crew's "We Want Some Pussy" is ushering in a new era of sexist filth.

People have been singing about fucking ever since people started singing. If Reagan-era repression, AIDS, and evil X-ian evangelists have had any effect on music, it's through the dirty "party disc" comeback. These filthy, crude discs, usually made by blacks and hillbillies (including such respected figures as the father of gospel music Thomas A. Dorsey, who was the co-author of one of the '20s biggest smut-blues ditties, "Tight Like That", and former Louisiana governor Jimmie "You Are My Sunshine" Davis, who began his career howling about poontang in such gritty country discs as "Tomcat & Pussy Blues" and "Red Nightgown Blues"), have been around since the start of recorded music.

Guys like Miami's Blowfly have been keeping the tradition alive through the conservative '80s, but all of a sudden, in the grim year of our lord 1987, three big hits—all filthy fuck tunes—have hit the whitewashed charts, and 1988 may be a banner year for such mess.

The best record of last year by Florida rappers 2 Live Crew was a totally filthy ditty called "We Want Some Pussy" (Luke Skyywalker), a record so fine that a store clerk in Florida was arrested for selling it to a minor. A monotonous B-box beat and two-chord guitar riff set the tone for

my new favorite duo. Not since Jimmy Reed told his girlfriend he'd rather see her gangbanged than dumping him in "My First Plea" (from I'm Jimmy Reed, on Vee Jay, for you collectors) has anybody been so blunt.

Me and my homies like to play this game,

Some call it Amtrak but we call it the train.

We all line up in a single file line, And take our turn at waxin' girls behinds.

—and it gets dirty from there.
Clarence Carter has been around forever. He was one of the original Muscle Shoals soul giants scoring megahits like "Patches" and "Slip Away" (do look for his '68 X-mas disc "Back Door Santa"—I ain't like ole St. Nick/He don't come but once a year—for a real thrill, tho;). Lots of folks were surprised when he scored a major comeback hit last year with a fantastic soul-fuck disc on his own tiny Ichiban label out of Atlanta, Ga.

But anyone who hears "Strokin" will understand that even in this mega-corporate music industry, genius is bound to fight its way through the dreck now and again. An updated (programmed drums, synth bass) Muscle Shoals beat is laid down, over which CC plays some pigshit bluesy guitar and works his way into an ode to his choad that will astound you.

The Cajun revival of the last few years seems mostly like a yuppie dining experience, although it's nice that great, cajun, zydeco men like Clifton Chenier and Rockin' Dopsie are making some money out of it. Well, who comes out of the woodwork showing real class but Boozoo Chavis (who?), accordion-stomping black cajun, who scored a minor R&B hit in '51 with the totally moronic "Paper In My Shoe" (Imperial). His latest, "Deacon Jones" (Komeday)—a regional smash—is a driving accordion-stomper, sung in English, sort of; he has the heaviest French-Cajun accent I've ever heard. The theme is the age-old preacher-with-ahard-on motif—Deacon Jones was a fuckin' fool/fucked his teacher on the first day of school, etc. I played this masterpiece on the radio a good halfdozen times before anybody caught on.

Rubberized coating on your johnson or not, the party disc is a part of our musical heritage that is to be cherished and preserved. Anyone who don't dig that can go...



Mississippi Catfish by Chef Ra

Catfish has been a food staple for "downhome" folks in the South and Midwest for many years. Like carp (which was brought from Germany during the '30s), much of our catfish was raised in fisheries and then released into the muddy Mississippi to help feed the starving poor.

Chef Ra has caught some pretty big ones in his day—three feet long and over 10 pounds. I often use nothing but a makeshift pole and a few worms, but there are actually three traditional methods for catfishing: jugging, trot

lining, and hogging.

Jugging is the most fun, 'specially when done late at night. All that's needed is a boat, some one-gallon plastic jugs, and a few hooks. Tie a short line and hook to each jug and bait the hooks with minnows. nightcrawlers, or cheese. (Catfish are bottom feeders, which means they'll swallow just about anything that smells.) After the hooks are baited and the jugs are thrown overboard, it's time to sit back, smoke a spliff, and enjoy the cool night air, while waiting for the catfish to bite. Before long, you'll be chasing those jugs up and down the river for hours. (It helps if you bring along a flashlight.)

Trot lining is for the more serious minded—those looking for a big haul. A trot line has around 50 hooks and is much longer than the average fishing line. After the hooks are baited, the line is set by wading out into shallow backwaters and securing both ends of the line to the riverbank. Since catfish bite at night, it's best to leave the trot line out all night. With any luck, most of the hooks will snag a catfish by

norning.

Hogging is the most dangerous method. I don't recommend it, but it remains a popular sport in southern

Illinois. Really big catfish often hang out under logs and overhangs around the riverbank. During the spring, when the water is cold, the fish are slow and sluggish. If you know a spot favored by big fish, you can stick your hand in the muddy water and feel around for one. The object is to get your hand inside the fish's mouth, hook your finger through a gill, and yank the fish out of the water. I've seen 40-pounders pulled out by this method. I've also heard of guys getting pulled into the water by a catfish too big to hog. Since catfish don't have teeth—just a little sandpaper on the jaw—there's no danger of being bitten. However, there is the danger of disturbing a snapping turtle or water moccasin, which is why you won't catch Chef Ra participating in such a macho sport.

Mississippi Poisson a la Ra

1 1/2 pound channel catfish (substitute bass or crappie)

3 cups vegetable oil

2 cups cornmeal

1 can beer

1 tablespoon pepper

Remove skin from fish. Wash fish. Dip fish into a bowl filled with beer. Remove fish from beer and place into a paper bag containing cornmeal and pepper. Shake, rattle, and roll until fish is coated. Heat oil in pan and fry fish until golden brown.

Sangamon River Cole Slaw

1/2 head of cabbage (green or red)

1 carrot

1/4 onion

1/2 green pepper

1/8 cup vegetable oil

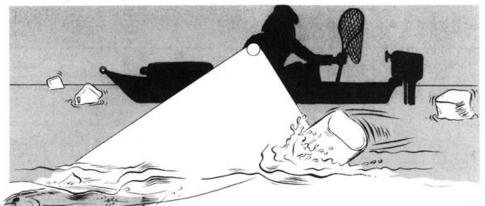
1/4 cup apple vinegar

3 teaspoons honey

*1/4 ounce of fine, green sinsi (optional)

Dice cabbage, carrot, onion, and green pepper, and mix in bowl. In separate bowl mix oil, vinegar, and honey. Combine ingredients.

*For super high salad, mix green sinsi with oil and cook in pan for 10 minutes, being careful not to burn the herb. Let mixture cool, then add to vinegar and honey.



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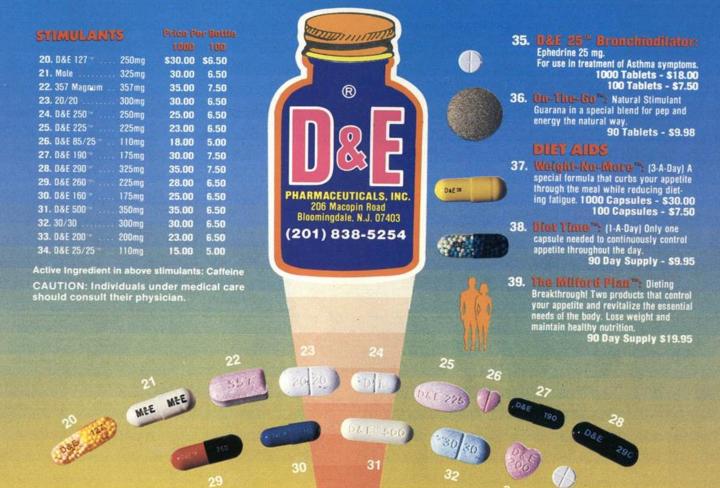
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Go-Go Girl of the month

Sophia

I was walking by the Lighthouse in Negril when this beautiful girl walked in front of me, and wouldn't let me pass. The first words out of her mouth were, "You like to marry me?"

Ah-I might.

"Might? I don't want to hear might! I want to hear yes!"

Well, ah, that's like proposing. I could get in trouble around here.

"No you won't. Jamaica no problem."

Oh, yeah?

"I'm free, single, and disengaged. And I'm looking for a nice white guy to be my husband. Take me with you over there."

Over where?

"New York, or wherever you live. I want to live there."

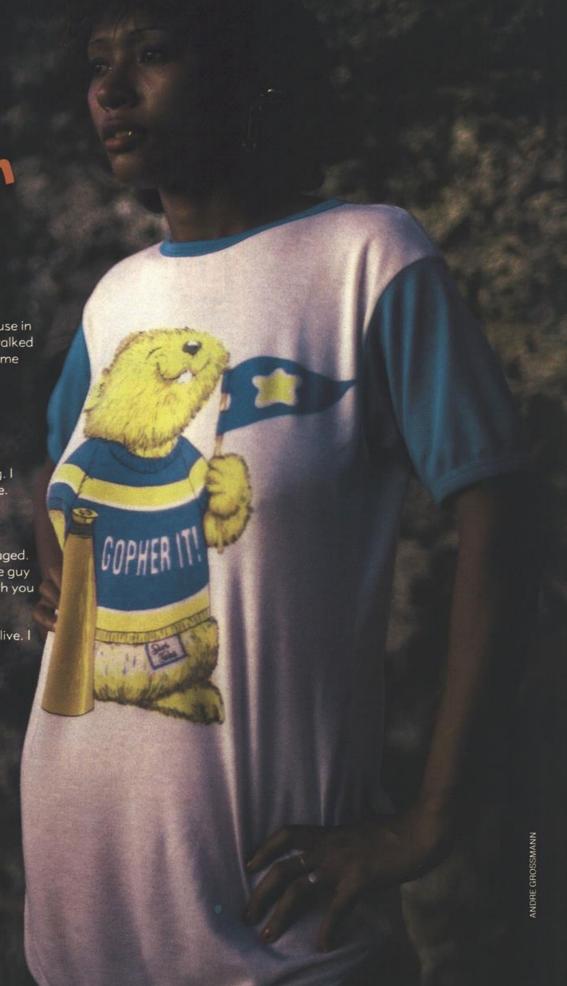
You're very young, right?

"I'm just 19."

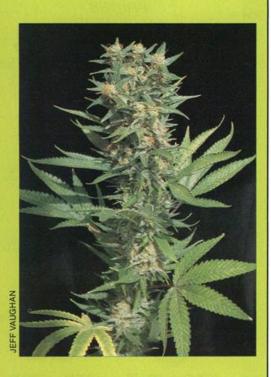
Oh.

"I want to be in magazines."

Okay. No problem.

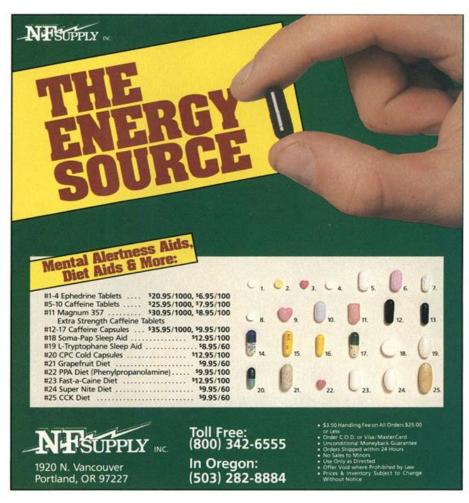


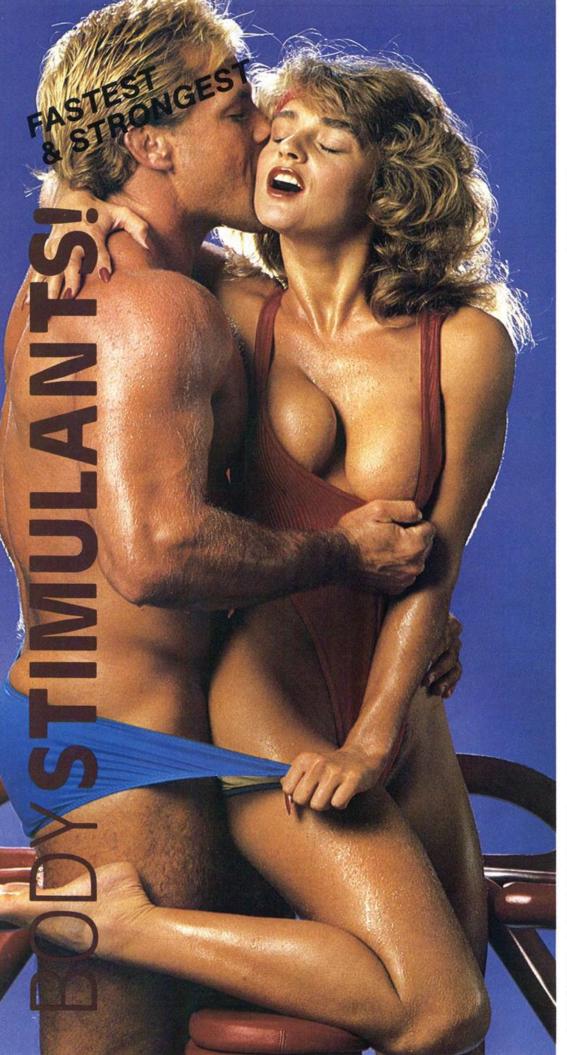
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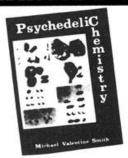
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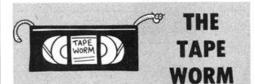
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by Jim Poling



Dog Star Man—is this the work of a charlatan?

DOG STAR MAN (Mystic Fire)

In the early '60s if you had a few willing friends, an 8mm camera and a spare basement you could turn out your own "cinematheque"; and with a certain amount of optimism and innocence you tried, of course, to free "art" of its vulgarities and turn it into something pure. Whatever art meant then or means today, I kind of miss that abstract independence where it meant only what you felt at the moment. True, a lot of what came out during this time (from Warhol, Downey, Anger, Dick Higgins, Ken Jacobs, the Kuchar Brothers, Jack Smith, etc.) are psychedelic fossils, but the best artist of that period, Stan Brakhage, survives along with his 1964 film Dog Star Man, as an exemplary piece of personal filmmaking. The reactions to Brakhage are baffling; a reverential name to his occasional defenders, others use Brakhage as an example to denounce the whole '60s experimental filmmaking movement as silly and amateurish. Even at the time, the same critics who fell into comas during Warhol's The Chelsea Girls (only to trip over themselves with wordy praise after) attacked Brakhage as a charlatan passing off home movies as aesthetic art. If at first Dog Star Man appears to mean nothing, it isn't deliberate like Bunuel's Un Chien Andalou, which was made with the intention of meaning nothing. Brakhage is paying tribute to our simple existence as he lingers over landscapes of the Earth and the human body, over flesh and water and sky and babies and dogs and the sun. It's the universe, the heart, and the soul in a 75minute flicker of images asking what Man can achieve during life and ascend to after death. Brakhage never presses us for an answer and even better, he never assumes the responsibility of

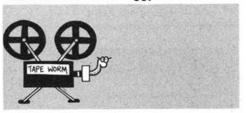
answering for us.

THE CONQUEROR WORM (Thorne/EMI)

One of the few films Vincent Price played straight in the '60s and one of his best in a fifty-year career. As the pitiless and sadistic Matthew Hopkins, the self-appointed Witchfinder General, Price scours the English countryside randomly executing suspects for profit and pleasure. Although wildly condemned for its brutality, violence in horror films has rarely been used as legitimately as it is here. It was only the third film for director Michael Reeves, after which—at the age of 25—he died from a barbiturate overdose. (1968)

CURSE OF THE DEMON (RCA/Columbia)

A starchy and sceptical American psychologist investigating a man's death becomes involved in a necromancer's summoning of the devil, and when it appears—all thirty stories of it floating in a belch of clouds and thunder—it can make anyone a believer. After all the hyperbole of the modern horror film, the sinister calm of Jacques Tourneur's 1957 masterpiece becomes an object lesson in how movies can scare. With Dana Andrews and Peggy Cummins.



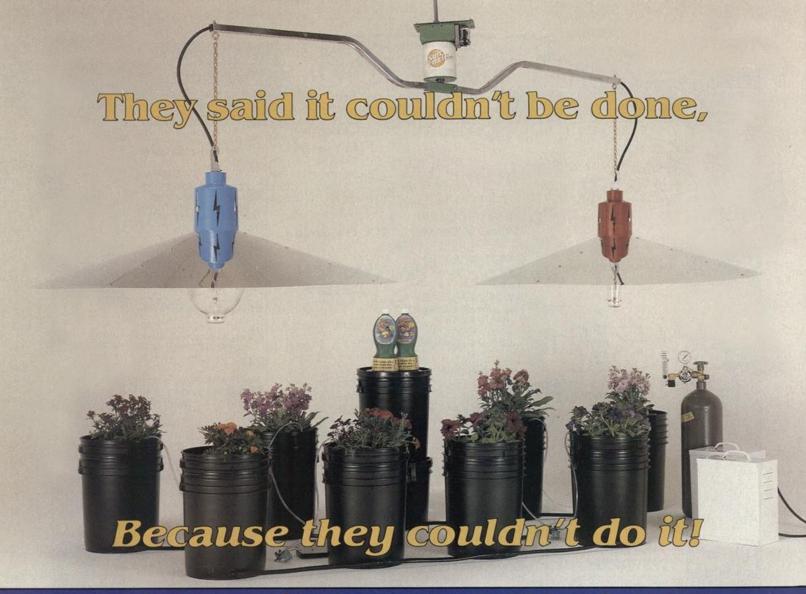
SIESTA (Lorimar)

Unlike most bad movies, Siesta is so truly, profoundly, unconventionally terrible that it actually gives people much to talk about. Ellen Barkin, a skydiver, (lots of metaphors on falling) wakes up bruised and bloody near an airport landing strip and calmly prepares for a flashback to find out why. There are also flashforwards (within the flashbacks as well, I think) and to make things more confusing Barkin wears the same red dress throughout making it impossible to tell just where we are in the story. Confusion may be the point: in one scene, a double for co-star Jodie Foster is so clearly not Jodie that I was sure a statement was being made about identity problems. All our confusion and all our questions are tied up in a twist ending so silly that the audience's jaws were in full drop. Along with Barkin and Foster, the cast includes Grace Jones, Martin Sheen, and Isabella Rossellini, so clearly director Mary Lambert must know someone. •



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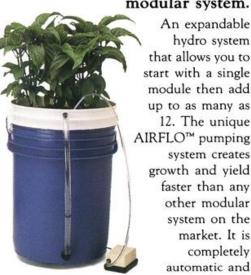
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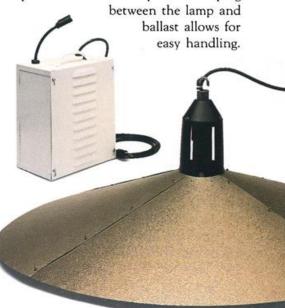
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